On Top Of The News

INSIDE TODAY
WORLD NEWS

ROCK MOSQUE



Palestinian prepare to throw stones and firecrackers at Israeli police, not seen, as they are backdropped by the Dome of the Rock Mosque, during clashes in the east Jerusalem neighborhood of Ras Al Amud, Sunday, Feb. 28, 2010. Israeli police forces stormed the most contentious holy site in Jerusalem on Sunday to disperse masked Palestinian protesters hurling rocks at visiting foreign tourists.

Read more on Page A8

SPORTS NEWS

Ο ΕΔΝΔΠΑ



Canada's Sidney Crosby (87) is congratulated by Drew Doughty (8) and Chris Pronger (20) after Crosby scored the game-winning goal in the overtime period of a men's gold medal ice hockey game against USA at the Vancouver 2010 Olympics in Vancouver, British Columbia, Sunday, Feb. 28, 2010.

Read more on Page A

Email: news@arubatoday.com

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Monday, March 1, 2010



People walk past a collapsed building in Concepcion, Chile, Sunday, Feb. 28, 2010. A 8.8-magnitude earthquake hit Chile early Saturday.

Associated Press

Chile quake death toll hits 708 as rescue ramps up

EVA VERGARA MICHAEL WARREN

Associated Press Writers

CONCEPCION, Chile (AP) — Heroism and banditry mingled on Chile's shattered streets Sunday as rescuers braved aftershocks digging for survivors and the government sent soldiers and ordered a nighttime curfew to quell looting. The death toll climbed to 708 in one of the biggest earthquakes in centuries.

In the hard-hit city of Concepcion, firefighters pulling survivors from a toppled apartment block were forced to pause because of tear gas fired to stop looters, who were wheeling off everything from microwave ovens to canned milk at a damaged supermarket across the street. Efforts to determine the full scope of destruction were undermined by an endless string of terrifying aftershocks that continued to turn buildings into rubble. Officials said 500,000 houses were destroyed or badly

damaged, and President Michele Bachelet said "a growing number" of people were listed as missing.

"We are facing a catastrophe of such unthinkable magnitude that it will require a giant effort" to recover, Bachelet said after meeting for six hours with ministers and generals in La Moneda Palace, itself chipped and cracked.

She signed a decree giving the military control over security in the province of Concepcion, where looters were pillaging supermarkets, gas stations, pharmacies and banks. Men and women hurried away with plastic containers of chicken, beef and sausages. Virtually every market and supermarket had been looted — and no food or drinking water could be found. Many people in Concepcion expressed anger at the authorities for not stopping the looting or bringing in supplies. Electricity and water services were out of service.

Continued on Page 6



Scientists defend warning after tsunami nonevent

GILLIAN FLACCUS

property.

Associated Press Writer
HONOLULU (AP) — The warning was ominous, its predictions dire:
Oceanographers issued a bulletin telling Hawaii and other Pacific islands that a killer wave was heading their way with terrifying force and that "urgent action should be taken to protect lives and

But the devastating tidal surge predicted after Chile's magnitude 8.8-earthquake for areas far from the epicenter never materialized. And by Sunday, authorities had lifted the warning after waves half the predicted size tickled the shores of Hawaii and tourists once again jammed beaches and restaurants.

Scientists acknowledged they overstated the threat but defended their actions, saying they took the proper steps and learned the lessons of the 2004 Indonesian tsunami that killed thousands of people who didn't get enough warning.

Continued on Page 5





Monday, March 1, 2010 UP FRONT

Obama yet to kick smoking habit, should eat better



President Barack Obama returns to the White House from the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Md., following a medical exam, Sunday, Feb. 28, 2010, in Washington. The 48year-old commander-in-chief signaled a thumbs-up when asked about his health.

Associated Press

STEVEN R. HURST **Associated Press Writer**

WASHINGTON (AP) President Barack Obama hasn't kicked his smoking habit, takes anti-inflammatory medication to relieve chronic tendinitis in his left knee and should eat better to lower his cholesterol. his team of doctors concluded Sunday after the 48-yearold's first medical checkup as commander in chief.

The chief executive, who has endured an exhausting first year in the White House and yearlong battles with congressional Republicans, was otherwise declared in excellent health and fit for duty.

The White House physician, Navy Capt. Jeffrey Kuhlman, said Obama should stick with "smoking cessation efforts," the use of nicotine gum, and come back in August 2011

after he turns 50.

Obama's cholesterol levels have crept up to borderline high and he should alter his diet accordingly, according to a report the White House released after the 90-minute examination at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland. While at the facility, he visited 12 military service members receiving treatment and rehabilitation for injuries suffered in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The president is the picture of health, eats modest portions and exercises regularly. He is an avid basketball player and golfer. The slightly elevated cholesterol levels, tendinitis in his left knee and occasional smoking were the only negatives noted.

Obama said at a June news conference that he still had an occasional cigarette. It was his first public acknowledgment that he hadn't kicked the habit. He chews nicotine gum to avoid regular smoking, and his doctor said that should continue.

Kuhlman also said the president should modify his diet to bring his LDL, or bad cholesterol, below 130. At the time of his last exam, Obama's total cholesterol was 173, while his LDL was 96 and HDL, or good cholesterol, was 68.

This time, total cholesterol was up to 209, with HDL down slightly at 62. LDL was up to 138. Borderline high cholesterol starts at 200, with LDL considered in the same category at 130.

Kuhlman said Obama's last checkup was in July 2008 when he was seen by the attending physician to Congress when Obama was an Illinois senator. During the 2008 White House race, his campaign released a statement from his longtime Chicago doctor saying Obama was in excellent health when examined in January 2007.

Sunday's report said Obama is 6-foot-1 and weighs 180 pounds in shoes and exercise clothing. His pulse rate is 56, which is very good, as is his blood pressure — 105 over 62. The doctor said Obama's vision was 20/20 in both eyes for both distance and near vision.

The president was checked for LDL cholesterol below 130.

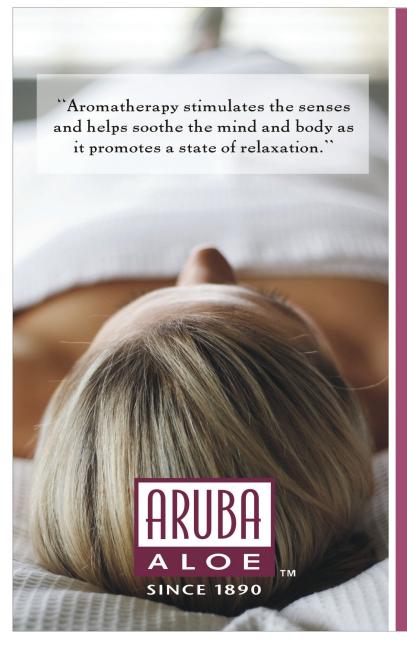
and found free of colon cancer with a virtual colonoscopy, a scan that avoids the more invasive visual inspection with a camera device that is passed into the large intestine.

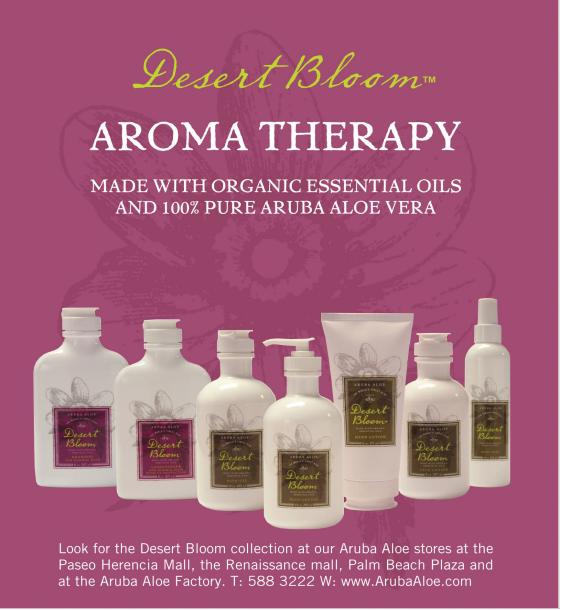
The tendinitis that Obama suffers in his left leg could be the result of his regular basketball playing.

Kuhlman said that there was mild popping and grinding in Obama's left knee and "some weakness" in his left hip, also possibly a result of rigorous and extended periods on the basketball court.

The doctor said Obama should:

- —Have another exam for colon cancer in five years
- —Continue smoking cessation efforts, a daily exercise program, a healthy diet, moderation in alcohol intake, periodic dental care, and remain up to date with recommended immunizations.
- -Keep up a modified exercise regimen to strengthen his legs to ward off more difficulties with his knee.
- —Modify his diet to lower his





U.S. NEWS A3 Monday, March 1, 2010

Nearly 200K homes still without power after storm

CLARKE CANFIELD, **Associated Press Writer**

PORTLAND, Maine - Nearly 200,000 homes and businesses were still without power Sunday as restoration efforts continued days after a slowmoving storm battered the Northeast with heavy snow, rain and high winds.

More than 83,000 utility customers still lacked Sunday electricity late afternoon in New Hampshire. the hardest-hit state. New York had about 87,000 outages and Maine 23,000.

At the peak of the storm, more than a million utility customers throughout the region had lost power.

Hundreds of utility crews from as far away as Michigan and Maryland continued removing trees that knocked down power lines and replacing utility poles that snapped during last week's storm.

Dozens of shelters provided warmth and food at fire departments, schools and other places.

Even after spending three nights at a shelter in New Paltz, N.Y., 28-year-old Keith Crum of Marlboro, N.Y., said he was understanding of the ongoing power outage. He recently moved back to the area from South Carolina, where he worked cutting trees away from power lines.

"They're trying to do the best they can with the power," he said. "You got to take into account there are a lot of lines down."

Bryan Bush lost electricity Thursday, but he used a power generator he owns to turn the lights back on in his home in Kittery, Maine. Neighbors without that option have been stopping in for showers, warmth and cups of coffee.

But with three utility poles still down in front of his house and wires crossing his driveway, he wasn't too confident about getting power back anytime soon.

"I wouldn't expect much before the middle or the end of the week," he said.

Deep snow in New York has

made it hard for people to get around.

"A lot of people cannot honestly get out of their house and get to the shelters," said John-Anthony Bruno, executive director of the Ulster County, N.Y., chapter of the American Red Cross.

"A lot of people are resourceful," she added. "If their neighbor has power, they go down the street rather than shelter with us."

In southern New York, the weather was linked to a death in Warwick, where a 60-yearold man was found dead after he went outside to shovel snow on Friday, said Walter Koury, the Orange County emergency services commissioner.

Governors in New Hampshire, Maine and Massachusetts visited storm-struck areas emergency responders and view storm damage. Officials said it could be several days before power is fully restored in New Hampshire, while Maine's largest utility hoped to restore power to all of its customers by the end of Monday.

In New Hampshire, Gov. John Lynch activated 50 National Guard members who went door-to-door in Allenstown on Sunday to check on residents without power.

"This continues to be a difficult situation for many New Hampshire families and I continue to urge people to put their safety first," Lynch said. The storm dumped more than 2 feet of snow in New York, dropped 8 inches of rain in southern Maine and brought

Fallen trees hang on utility wires in East Derry, N.H., Saturday, Feb. 27, 2010. Utility crews pushed through deep drifting snow and fallen trees to restore electricity to homes and businesses that lost power during a slow-moving winter storm that pounded the Northeast with heavy snow, rain and hurricane-force winds.

Associated Press

wind gusts of up to 92 mph off of the latest front with 3 to 6 the New Hampshire coast.

Another storm, this one from the east, was expected to bring more snow and rain into parts of New England on Sunday night into Monday.

Maine stood to get the brunt

inches of snow expected in much of the state, and lesser amounts in New Hampshire Massachusetts, Michael Cempa, a National Weather Service meteorologist in Gray, Maine.







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Monday, March 1, 2010

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White House: Simple up or down vote on health care



House Speaker Nancy Pelosi of Calif. speaks during a news conference on Capitol Hill in Washington, Friday, Feb. 26, 2010. Associated Press

JIM KUHNHENN **Associated Press Writer**

WASHINGTON (AP) — The White House called for a "simple up-or-down" vote on health care legislation Sunday Speaker Nancy Pelosi

appealed to House Democrats to get behind President Barack Obama's chief domestic priority even it if threatens their political careers.

In voicing support for a simple majority vote, White House

Nancy-Ann DeParle signaled Obama's intention to push the Democratic-crafted bill under Senate rules that would overcome Republican stalling tactics

Republicans unanimously oppose the Democratic proposals. Without Republican support, Obama's only chance of emerging with a policy and political victory is to bypass the bipartisanship he promoted during his televised seven-hour health care summit Thursday with congressional leaders from both parties.

"We're not talking about changing any rules here," DeParle said. "All the president's talking about is: Do we need to address this problem and does it make sense to have a simple, upor-down vote on whether or not we want to fix these problems?"

DeParle was optimistic that the president would have the votes to pass the massive bill. But none of the legislation's advocates who spoke on Sunday indicated that those votes were in hand.

"I think we will get to that point where we will have the votes," predicted Sen. Robert Menendez of New Jersey, a member of the Senate Democratic leadership. believe that we will pass health care reform this spring."

In a sober call to arms, Pelosi said lawmakers sometimes must enact policies that, even if unpopular at the moment, will help the public. "We're not here just to self-perpetuate our service in Congress," she said. "We're here to do the job for the American people."

Pelosi said it took courage for Congress to pass Social Security and Medicare, the government programs providing retirement benefits and health care coverage to the elderly which eventually

health care reform director became highly popular. She added: "Many of the same forces that were at work decades ago are at work again against this bill."

> It's unclear whether Pelosi's remarks will embolden or chill dozens of moderate House Democrats who face withering criticisms of the health care proposal in visits with constituents and in national polls. Republican lawmakers unanimously oppose the health care proposals, and many Republican strategists believe voters will turn against Democrats in the November elections.

Pelosi, from San Francisco, is more liberal than scores of her Democratic colleagues. But she generally walks a careful line between urging them to back left-of-center policies and giving them a green light to buck party leaders to improve their re-election hopes.

Her comments seemed to acknowledge the widely held view that Democrats will lose House seats this fall — maybe a lot. They now control the chamber 255 to 178, with two vacancies. Pelosi stopped well short of suggesting Democrats could lose their majority, but she called on members of her party to make a bold move on health care with no prospects of Republican help.

"Time is up," she said. "We really have to go forth."

Rep. Eric Cantor of Virginia, the second-ranking Republican leader in the House, made it clear that Republicans see a Democrats-only bill as an election-year issue.

"If Speaker Pelosi rams through this bill, through the House ... they will lose their majority in Congress in November," he said.

The White House is redoubling efforts to remind voters that the Senate passed an Obamabacked health care bill in December with 60 votes. Every Republican voted against that bill. A Republican Senate victory in Massachusetts in January, however, left Democrats one vote shy of the number necessary to overcome Republican delaying tactics.

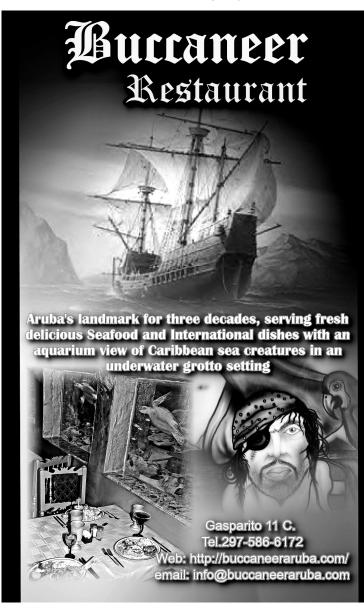
As a result, a new plan would call for the House to pass the Senate bill and send it to Obama. The Senate would then use budget reconciliation rules to make several changes demanded by House Democrats. Those rules require only a majority vote to advance the legislation;

Exactly what the legislation would look like remained a matter of negotiation within Democratic ranks. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid of Nevada, "is working with his caucus, the White House and the House leadership on strategy and next steps," Reid spokesman Jim Manley said Sunday.

Senate Republican leader McConnell Mitch Kentucky renewed his party's demand that Obama and the Democrats start over and write a bipartisan health care bill. He said that while the reconciliation process has been used to pass legislation in the past, it should not apply to health care legislation.

"There are a number of other Republicans who do not think something of this magnitude ought to be jammed down the throats of a public that doesn't want it through this kind of device," McConnell said.

McConnell predicted that all 41 Republican senators would oppose what he called a "massive government takeover of health care." Pelosi said that "in a matter of days" Democrats will have specific legislative language on health care to show to the public and to wavering lawmakers. She predicted voters will warm up to the bill once they understand its details.



TSUNAMI MOVEMENT Continued from Front Page

"It's a key point to remember that we cannot end the warnings. Failure to warn is not an option for us," said Dai Lin Wang, an oceanographer at the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center in Hawaii. "We cannot have a situation that we thought was no problem and then it's devastating. That just cannot happen."

Hundreds of thousands of people fled shorelines for higher ground Saturday in a panic that circled the Pacific Rim after scientists warned 53 nations and territories that a tsunami had been generated by the massive Chilean quake.

It was the largest-scale evacuation in Hawaii in years, if not decades. Emergency sirens blared throughout the day, the Navy moved ships out of Pearl Harbor, and residents hoarded gasoline, food and water in anticipation of a major disaster. Some supermarkets even placed limits on items like Spam because of the panic buying.

At least five people were killed by the tsunami on Robinson Crusoe Island off Chile's coast and huge waves devastated

near hard-hit Concepcion on Chile's mainland.

But the threat of monster waves that left Hawaii's sundrenched beaches empty for hours never appeared—a stark contrast to the tidal surge that killed 230,000 people around the Indian Ocean in 2004 and flattened entire communities.

This time, waves of more than 5 feet were reported in Kahului Bay in Maui and in Hilo, on the eastern coast of Hawaii's Big Island, but did little damage. Predictions of wave height in some areas were off by as much as 50 percent.

In Tonga, where up to 50,000 people fled inland hours ahead of the tsunami, the National Disaster Office had reports of a wave up to 6.5 feet hitting a small northern island, with no indications of damage.

And in Japan, where authorities ordered 400,000 people out of coastal communities, the biggest wave was a 4-foot surge that hit the northern island of Hokkaido, flooding some piers.

Still, warnings remained in place Monday morning across a broad stretch of Japan's Pacific coast.

the port city of Talcahuano, After the Pacific Tsunami

Warning Center lifted its warning, some countries kept their own watches in place as a precaution. Early Monday, the Japan Meteorological Agency warned of a possible tsunami about a foot and a half in size along its entire Pacific coast and told people to stay away from the waterfront. It later narrowed the region covered by the warning.

Scientists offered no apologies for the warnings and defended their work, all while worrying that the false alarm could lead to complacency among coastal residents — a disastrous possibility in the earthquakeprone Pacific Rim.

A similar quake in Chile in 1960 created a tsunami that killed about 140 people in Japan. The same surge hit Hawaii and devastated downtown Hilo, on the Big Island, killing 61 residents and wiping out more than 500 homes and businesses.

"If you give too many warnings and none of them materialize, then you lose your credibility," Wang said. "That's something that we have to deal with and we have to improve."

Despite some of the panic in Hawaii, public officials called the evacuation "perfect" and REGIONAL A5
Monday, March 1, 2010 PACIFIC TSUNAMI WARNING CENTER

Tsunami scientists are seen working at the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center, Saturday, Feb. 27, 2010 in Ewa Beach, Hawaii. The State of Hawaii is under a tsunami warning after a 8.8 magnitude earthquake struck Chile Saturday.

Associated Press

proved the system worked.

Chaos was at a minimum as people heeded evacuation orders and roads were free of the gridlock that can paralyze a region before a disaster. The smooth response occurred largely because the state had so long to prepare; Hawaii is nearly 7,000 miles (11,300 kilometers) from where the quake hit, and it took 15 hours for the tsunami to arrive.

"I hope everyone learned from this for next time, and there will be a next time," said Gerard Fryer, a geophysicist for the warning center.

The science of predicting

said it was a good test case that tsunamis is difficult, given the vast size of the ocean and the volatile forces at work miles below the surface.

> Scientists use an earthquake's magnitude and location as the basis for their predictions and then refine it constantly with data from more than 30 deepwater sensors stationed across the Pacific as the shock wave sweeps across the ocean floor. The sensors, located at 15,000 to 20,000 feet beneath the surface, measure the weight of the water and beam it to buoys floating on the surface. Scientists then use the data to pinpoint where the surge is and when it will make landfall.

Witness: Glass 'everywhere' in NYC atrium collapse

NEW YORK (AP) — Ice broke through the ceiling of an atrium at the Sony Building in New York City, showering glass over partygoers who scurried to avoid it and leaving 10 with minor injuries, authorities and a witness said. Ice left by last week's storms fell from the 32nd floor of the building on Madison Avenue in Manhattan late Saturday night, shattering two 3- by 5foot glass panels in the lobby, said Buildings Department spokesman Tony Sclafani.

Shirley Rozman said she was attending a party celebrating the Jewish holiday of Purim in the building when she heard "what sounded like some plates breaking." She said she then heard a pop.

"I looked up, and there was glass flying everywhere," Rozman said. "It looked like a hailstorm."

Partygoers ran from the center of the room, Rozman said.



A sign is posted to the door of the atrium in the Sony Building as it sits closed to the public in New York Sunday Feb. 28, 2010. Authorities say ice broke through a glass atrium at the building with people sustaining minor injuries during a party Saturday night.

Associated Press

A small piece of glass lodged in the chest of Rozman's friend, she said, adding that she herself suffered a scrape on her chin.



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CHILE QUAKE

Continued from Front Page
"We are overwhelmed,"
a police officer told The
Associated Press.

Bachelet said a curfew was being imposed from 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. and only security forces and other emergency personnel would be allowed on the streets. Police vehicles drove around announcing the curfew over loudspeakers.

As nightfall neared, hundreds of people put up tents and huddled around wood fires in parks and the grassy medians of avenues, too fearful to return to their homes amid continuing strong aftershocks. Bachelet, who leaves office on March 11, said the country would accept some of the offers of aid that have poured in from around the world.

She said Chile needs field hospitals and temporary bridges, water purification plants and damage assessment experts — as well as rescuers to help relieve workers who have been laboring frantically since the magnitude-8.8 quake

struck before dawn Saturday. To strip away any need for

looting, Bachelet announced that essentials on the shelves of major supermarkets would be given away for free, under the supervision of authorities. Soldiers and police will also distribute food and water, she said. Although houses, bridges and highways were damaged in Santiago, the national capital, a few flights managed to land at the airport and subway service resumed. More chaotic was the region to the south, where the shaking was the strongest and where the quake generated waves that lashed coastal settlements, leaving behind sticks, scraps of metal and masonry houses ripped in two.

In the village of Lloca, a beachside carnival was caught in the tsunami. A carousel was twisted on its side and a ferris wheel rose above the muddy wreckage.

In Concepcion, the largest city in the disaster zone, a new, 15-story apartment building toppled onto its side. Many of



People loot a supermarket in Concepcion, Chile, Sunday, Feb. 28, 2010. A 8.8 magnitude earthquake hit Chile early Saturday.

Associated Press

those who lived on the side that wound up facing the sky could clamber out; those on the other were trapped. An estimated 60 people remained trapped in the 70-unit apartment building.

Police officer Jorge Guerra took names of the missing from a stream of tearful relatives and friends. He urged them to be optimistic because about two dozen people had been rescued.

"There are people alive. There are several people who are going to be rescued," he said — though the next people pulled from the wreckage were dead. Concepcion's main hospital was operating, though patients in an older half of the building were moved into hallways as a precaution. Rescuers worked carefully for

fear of aftershocks. Ninety jolts of magnitude 5 or greater shuddered across the region in the first 24 hours after the quake, including one nearly as large as the earthquake that devastated Haiti on Jan. 12. Firefighters in Concepcion were about to lower a rescuer deep into the rubble when the scent of tear gas fired at

looters across the street forced them to interrupt their efforts. "It's sad, but because of the situation you have to confront the robberies and at the same time continue the search," Guerra said. The sound of chain saws, power drills and sledgehammers breaking through concrete competed with the whoosh of a water cannon fired at looters and the

new ways into a four-story supermarket each time police retreated

One woman ran off with a shopping cart piled high with slabs of unwrapped meat and cheese. A shirtless man carried a mattress on his head. Some of the looters pitched rocks at police armored vehicles outside the Lider market, which is majority-owned by Wal-Mart Stores Inc.

Across the Bio Bio River in the city of San Pedro, looters cleared out a shopping mall. A video store was set ablaze, two automatic teller machines were broken open, a bank was robbed and a supermarket emptied, its floor littered with mashed plums, scattered dog food and smashed liquor bottles. "It was a mob. They everything," police Sgt. Rene Gutierrez, 46, who had his men guarding the now-empty mall. "Now we're only here to protect the building — what's left of the building." He said police had been slow to reach the looted mall because one bridge over the river was collapsed and the other so damaged they had to move cautiously.



Roberto's watersports

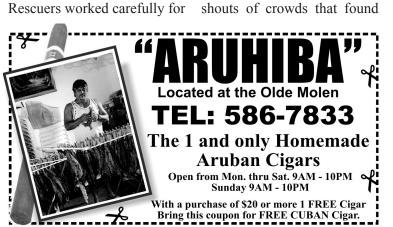
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WORLD NEWS A7 Monday, March 1, 2010

Iraqi PM calls pre-vote candidate ban legitimate

REBECCA SANTANA **Associated Press Writers**

BAGHDAD (AP) — Iraq's prime minister Sunday defended a ban of candidates with alleged ties to Saddam Hussein's former regime, calling it a legitimate decision that would not affect Sunni turnout at the polls.

In an interview with The Associated Press just a week before March 7 elections, Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki also said he did not see any need at this point for U.S. forces to stay in the country past their planned 2011 departure date. Al-Maliki, who came to power in 2006 as a compromise candidate, has overseen a return to relative stability since the height of the insurgency, but is facing stiff competition in his bid for

The decision to bar hundreds of candidates from the election, including two prominent Sunni lawmakers, for alleged ties to Saddam's ruling party has dominated Iraq's political debate for weeks and reflects the deep sectarian differences that still divide the country.

"This will never affect the turnout of the Sunnis in the elections. The decision was taken because some of these people were blatantly propagating Baath party ideas, and there is information that some of them are involved in actions that serve the Baath party," al-Maliki said.

Many in the country's Sunni minority, which dominated the Baath Party leadership, were outraged by the decision, which they felt unjustly targeted Sunni political figures

in an attempt to politically sideline them. A sectarian breakdown of the list, which includes Shiites as well, has never been released.

The murky process — about which little information was disclosed — raised questions about whether Sunnis would feel disillusioned by the vote and stay away from the polls. At one point, a prominent Sunni politician on the list even pulled his party from the race, and urged others Sunni parties to withdraw as well, raising fears of a Sunni boycott. That decision has since been rescinded.

In discussing the ban, al-Maliki appeared to distance himself from the two men who initiated the process — Shiite politicians Ali al-Lami and Ahmed Chalabi. Both are running in the election, raising

Iraq's Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki is seen during an interview with The Associated Press in Baghdad, Iraq, Sunday, Feb. 28, 2010. Iraq's Prime Minister is defending a decision to ban hundreds of candidates from the upcoming election, saying that it would not hurt Sunni turnout for next Sunday's vote.

Associated Press

questions about why they were being allowed to sideline their competition. As the heads of the Accountability and Justice Committee that vetted candidates for ties to the former regime, al-Lami and Chalabi shocked the Iraqi political system when they announced a blacklist containing hundreds of names. But al-Maliki emphasized that the legal justification for the eventual ban came not from the pair's initial decision but from a later committee, set up with parliamentary backing, to investigate their findings. The question of whether the Accountability and Justice Committee had a legal basis to take action has been a key source of contention in this debate.











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sraeli police, Palestinians clash at hol



Israeli policemen take positions during clashes with Palestinians youths, not seen, in Jerusalem's Old City, Sunday, Feb. 28, 2010. Israeli police forces stormed the most contentious holy site in Jerusalem on Sunday to disperse masked Palestinian protesters hurling objects at visiting foreign tourists.

Associated Press

MATTI FRIEDMAN **Associated Press Writer**

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israeli riot police dispersed a crowd of masked Palestinian youths throwing stones in the heart of Jerusalem's Old City on Sunday, in a violent reminder of tensions at the holiest site

in the contested city.

In the past, even seemingly minor incidents at the hilltop compound — known to Jews as the Temple Mount and to Muslims as the Noble Sanctuary — have ignited clashes and protests throughout the region. The Palestinian

he called an Israeli "attack" against an Islamic holy site. Micky Rosenfeld, an Israeli police spokesman, said police

dispersed some 20 masked protesters who had holed up overnight in the compound's Al-Agsa mosque and then pelted visiting tourists with objects early Sunday.

policemen The quickly restored calm and tourists were allowed to continue visiting the compound, one of Jerusalem's main tourist sites, Rosenfeld said. But sporadic clashes between small groups of masked Palestinians and police continued in the Old City's back alleyways, where youths with T-shirts wrapped around their faces hurled stones at policemen protected by a wall of plexiglass shields. No serious injuries were reported.

The holy compound has been under Israeli security control since the 1967 Mideast war,

president condemned what but Israel has left its day-today management in the hands of an Islamic administration known as the Waqf and prevents Jews from praying there.

> As in similar incidents in the past, Sunday's protests appeared to have erupted because of rumors that Jewish extremists planned to enter the holy compound, according to the Waqf's director, Abdul Azim Samhadana. He blamed Israeli police for "provoking" the youths.

With peace talks stalled for over a year, tensions have risen further since the Israeli government's recent decision to add two West Bank shrines to a list of national heritage sites. The move appears to have few practical implications, but Palestinians — along with the U.S. and some European countries — have denounced it as a provocation.

Speaking in Amman, Jordan, on Sunday, President Mahmoud Abbas said the decision on the West Bank shrines and Sunday's incident hinted at an Israeli attempt to "spark a religious war in the region."

"What is required from the international community is to stop Israel, and what is required from America itself is not just to condemn but to demand that Israel stop these attacks on the holy places," Abbas said in comments released by the official Palestinian news agency, Wafa.

Abbas has refused to restart peace talks without a full freeze of Israeli settlement construction. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has scaled back construction and said he supports the creation of a Palestinian state, but has not agreed to a complete freeze.

Conflicting claims to the hilltop compound in Jerusalem lie at the heart of the Israel-Palestinian conflict.

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ORANJESTAD- Benjamin Petrocchi started the newest export product of Aruba, locally produced cigars called "Aruhiba". These cigars are produced and cultivated in Aruba.



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Fierce storms in Europe kill 51, mostly in France

DEBORAH SEWARD Associated Press Writer

PARIS (AP) — A violent late winter storm with fierce rain and hurricane-strength winds ripped across western Europe on Sunday, battering France and four other countries, leaving at least 51 people dead.

The storm, named Xynthia, was the worst in France since 1999 when 90 people died. Prime Minister Francois Fillon held an emergency cabinet meeting and afterward called the storm a "national catastrophe."

Many of the at least 45 victims in France drowned, while others died when hit by parts of buildings or trees and branches that were ripped off by the wind. At least a dozen people were missing Sunday and 59 others were injured.

Three people died in Spain,

one was killed in Germany and a child was crushed to death in Portugal. The storm also hit Belgium, with one death reported there. Although Britain was not hit, London's Thames Barrier — the capital's flood defense — was closed Sunday morning as a precaution.

Nearly 900,000 people in France were without electricity. Rivers overflowed their banks in Brittany, while high tides and enormous waves swamped Atlantic Ocean communities in the early morning hours.

Sea walls broke in the town of L'Aguillon, where the ocean waters reached the roofs of some homes. Helicopters lifted people to safety throughout the day.

A retired couple who had parked their camping car on the waterfront in the town Moutier-en-Retz died when the vehicle was swallowed by rushing waters and they could not make it to firm ground.

The threat of avalanches was high in the Pyrenees Mountains and the southern Alps due to wind and wet snow. Roofs were ripped off, chimneys collapsed and the wind shattered the windows at a brewery in eastern France.

In Paris, winds knocked over motorcycles and spewed garbage around the streets of the capital. Flights were delayed and at least 100 were canceled at the two main Paris airports. A number of trains throughout France were delayed because of flooded tracks.

Winds reached about 130 mph (200 kph) on the summits of the Pyrenees and up to nearly 100 mph (160 kph) along the Atlantic Coast. The storm hit the Vendee and



Charente-Maritime regions in southwestern France hardest, flooding coastal islands and tossing boats around in ports. French President Nicolas Sarkozy and Interior Minister Brice Hortefeux planned to visit the worst hit regions Monday. The finance minister announced an easing of taxes for those affected for 2010.

The storm was moving eastward and parts of France along the border with Germany and Belgium were on alert for heavy rain and high winds.
Officials say scores of flights

heavy rain and high winds. Officials say scores of flights and trains have been canceled or delayed in southwestern Germany. One person was killed in the Black Forest area when winds brought a tree down onto his car in the Sunday afternoon storm.

Fallen trees also closed many stretches of train tracks in the states of Rhineland-Palatinate, Hesse, North Rhine-Westphalia and Saarland.

High winds caused the cancellation of 119 flights from Frankfurt airport while scores of others were delayed or diverted.

Xynthia hit Belgium in midafternoon. One man was killed by a falling tree in his garden in Jodoigne, southern Belgium, broadcaster VRT reported. □





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Monday, March 1, 2010 PEOPLE ARTS

Aruba TODAY



- Entertainer Marie Osmond speaks at a North Little Rock, Ark., Sam's Club store in this April 27, 2005 file photo. Osmond's 18-year-old son Michael Blosil has died, the entertainer said Saturday Feb. 27, 2010. Osmond said in a statement through her publicist that her family is devastated by the 'tragic loss.' She did not provide details on the death.

> (AP Photo/Danny Johnston, File)



A poster showing Alec Baldwin (L) and Steve Martin as hosts of the 82nd annual Academy Awards is seen at the bottom of the steps to the Samuel Goldwyn Theater in the Academy's headquarters building after the nominations announcements in Beverly Hills February 2, 2010.

REUTERS/Danny Moloshok By Bob Tourtellotte

LOS ANGELES (Reuters) With the Vancouver Olympics near an end on Sunday, Hollywood began charting its own path to glory at the Oscars, and though the film honors feature shoo-in contenders in several key races, industry watchers still expect some excitement.

War film "The Hurt Locker" action adventure "Avatar," which each earned nine nominations for the world's top film honors, are frontrunners among 10 best motion picture nominees, but

Marie Osmond's son dies in Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES - Marie Osmond's 18- Officer Gregory Baek said. year-old son Michael Blosil has died, the entertainer said Saturday.

Osmond said in a statement through her publicist that her family is devastated by the "tragic loss." She did not provide details on the death.

Entertainment Tonight reported on its Web site that Blosil jumped to his death Friday night from a downtown Los Angeles apartment building.

Officers responded to an apparent suicide jump in the area, but the victim was not identified Saturday, Los Angeles Police

"My family and I are devastated and in deep shock by the tragic loss of our dear Michael and ask that everyone respect our privacy during this difficult time," Osmond said in the statement.

Blosil reportedly left a note which referred to a lifelong battle with depression.

In 2007, Osmond said Michael was treated at a rehabilitation facility, but she didn't disclose the nature of his problem. Donny Osmond, Blosil's uncle, told Entertainment Tonight: "Please pray for my sister and her family."

Michael is one of Osmond's five adopted children. She also has three other children from two marriages. She divorced Brian Blosil in 2007 after two decades of marriage. She and her first husband Stephen Craig divorced in 1985.

Osmond earned fame at age 13 with the hit song "Paper Roses," and starred with her brother, Donny, on television's "Donny and Marie Show" during the 1970s.

They perform a musical variety show regularly at the Flamingo Las Vegas Hotel and Casino. The hotel said Saturday's performance was canceled.



Host Jay Leno gestures during a panel for his upcoming television series "The Jay Leno Show" at the Television Critics Association Cable summer press tour in Pasadena, California August 5, 2009. REUTERS/Mario Anzuoni

By Jill Serjeant

LOS ANGELES (Reuters) - Jay Leno returns to "The Tonight Show" on Monday, and so does his desk -- a sign that struggling network NBC wants its flagship late-

night TV program to return to normal after Conan O'Brien failed as its host.

More than a month after O'Brien left "The Tonight Show" in a bitter breakup with NBC and three weeks

Hollywood's Oscar contenders chart course for gold

which of the two films will It could be as simple as the win remains anybody's guess. The awards telecast, which airs on Sunday March 7, annually is seen by hundreds of millions of viewers worldwide, and Oscar organizers at the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences made the unusual move of hiring two hosts -- Alec Baldwin and Steve Martin -- to bring laughter and a fast pace to the show.

And what would the Oscars be without controversy? Last week reports surfaced that "Hurt Locker" producer Nicolas Chartier sent an email to Academy members asking them to vote for the film, a violation of rules for which he has apologized.

What will be his punishment?

Academy yanking his tickets to the coveted ceremony, but a spokeswoman said no decision will be made until after all the final Oscar ballots have been collected this Tuesday.

"It really doesn't seem like there's much suspense, but I will say this, there will be tension until the last minute when best film is announced," said Dave Karger, movie writer for Entertainment Weekly magazine.

In an effort to widen the pool of movies up for best film, the Academy for the first time since 1943 has put 10 movies in nomination, instead of five, but even so, most industry pundits have said the best film is a two-horse race and given "Hurt Locker" the edge.

Jay Leno returns to TV to regain late-night crown

after Leno signed off from the network's ill-fated "The Jay Leno Show" at 10 p.m., Leno slips back into his old seat as "The Tonight Show" host.

The question is: Will viewers, who crowned him the king of late-night TV for 15 years in that coveted role, rejoin him? In what is expected to be largely the same tried and tested formula of celebrity chat, monologue, odd headlines and musical interludes, Leno's opening week is packed with a stellar line-up including Winter Olympics champions Lindsey Vonn and Shaun White, flamboyant "American Idol" runner-up Adam Lambert, footballer Brett Favre and politician Sarah Palin.

Perhaps more important, or symbolic, is that he is bringing back the office desk he ditched for more casual arm chairs in a much-talked about change of style on "The Jay Leno Show".

"They have to go back to the formula that was working, and they have to hope they get the viewers back," said Marc Berman, senior TV writer with Mediaweek.

NBC axed "The Jay Leno Show" earlier this year because of complaints from local affiliates who said its poor ratings were providing a weak lead into their late news programs.

His genial image took a hit in the bitter reshuffle that ended in January with Conan O'Brien's \$45 million exit from the coveted "Tonight Show" hosting job after just seven months.

"DAMAGE CONTROL"

Apart from advertisements NBC's during Winter Olympics, promotion Leno's return has been low

In his only major interview since "The Jay Leno Show" was yanked off the air, Leno told Oprah Winfrey that he would have his work cut out to recapture his audience. "I think there's a lot of damage control that needs to be done... The only way you can fix these things is to try and do good shows, not be bitter, not be angry or upset or whatever," Leno told Winfrey.

Ratings for the "Tonight Show" slid after O'Brien took over in June 2009, allowing rival David Letterman on CBS to take a consistent lead in the battle for late-night network viewers for the first time since 1994. Leno, 59, was enjoying about the same 5.3 million average audience for "The Jay Leno Show" as he had during his 17-year tenure on "The Tonight Show".

Most TV analysts think Leno will struggle to get the same numbers immediately. But Steve Sternberg, former analyst with Magna Global, said speculation of a backlash from supporters of O'Brien was "gibberish" because he has a different fan base.

"Jay Leno's image with his fans has not soured at all... While Conan fans may be justified in their anger, it really has no impact on Leno," Sternberg wrote in his blog The Sternberg Report last week.

ESS A11 Monday, March 1, 2010



In this Feb. 3, 2010 photo, truck bays stand empty outside the Toyota plant at Blue Springs, Miss. Toyota says it's holding off production in Blue Springs, not because of the recall, but until the car market improves and the company sells off 'excess capacity.' (AP Photo/Rogelio V. Solis)

Desperate for work, Miss. town awaits Toyota plant

By HOLBROOK MOHR.

Associated Press Writer

BLUE SPRINGS, Miss. - Terry McShan isn't thinking about car sales analyses or excess capacity when he drives by the idle Toyota plant in northeast Mississippi. He's thinking about his little girl.

Like most Mississippians, the 46-year-old father of one grown daughter and a 4-year-old girl was thrilled when Toyota announced plans in 2007 to build a plant in Blue Springs, a onestore town in the north Mississippi hills. McShan soon enrolled in a junior college's automotive program in hopes of landing a job at the plant.

Those were better times, when the car market was strong, Mississippi officials gladly signed off on a \$324 million incentive package and Toyota said it would be building cars in Blue Springs in 2010. Three years later, the economy has tanked, one of the most trusted brands in the business has recalled millions of cars and McShan will graduate with no immediate prospects for a Toyota job in Mississippi.

Toyota says it's holding off production in Blue Springs, not because of the recall, but until the car market improves and the company sells off "excess capacity." It's anybody's guess when that'll be. Even when Toyota gives the green light, it could be 18 months to two years before the first car rolls off the assembly line. "When I heard Toyota was coming, I thought, 'This is the (college) program that I need.' I've been here ever since, waiting for Toyota to open," McShan said recently while taking a break from classes at Itawamba Community College in Tupelo.

"I'm just trying to give my daughter the best education that I can," McShan said. "That job right there (at the Toyota plant) would help give her the best."

Toyota has been hounded lately by production problems on several models, including the Prius, the gas-electric hybrid that was to be built in Mississippi. Problems with gas pedals, floor mats and brakes on various models have led to the biggest worldwide recall in the company's history, lawsuits, apologies from Toyota officials and congressional hearings.

The recall, however, came well after the announcement that production at Blue Springs was being put on hold. Toyota officials insist the recalls won't have any effect on the Blue Springs plant.

Payrolls, quake, ISM may steer stocks

By Caroline Valetkevitch

NEW YORK (Reuters) Payrolls could give the U.S. stock market some direction this week as investors comb through the key report on one of the economy's weakest areas.

When trading resumes on Monday, Wall Street will watch copper prices and mining stocks such as Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold (FCX.N) for impact from the massive earthquake that struck Chile, the world's top copper producer, early on Saturday.

The earthquake, which killed more than 400 people, forced temporary suspension of up to a fifth of Chile's mining capacity. In the quake's aftermath, tsunami waves struck Pacific coastlines as far away as Japan and the far eastern edge of Russia. "While it appears that a modest proportion of production has been halted, the major impact may come from the disruption on deliveries from the mines and from the disruption of power supplies to the mines," Citi analyst David Thurtell said.

Freeport McMoRan Copper & Gold Inc said on Saturday the quake did not damage its two mines in Chile, but it is facing a power outage at its Candelaria mine, which will result in a temporary shutdown.

More news on Greece's debt problems could also fire up investors after a week of little market movement, with U.S. stocks ending Friday's choppy session slightly higher in light trading volume due to a heavy winter snow storm that hit much of the U.S. Northeast.

The Institute for Supply Management will give Wall Street vital information on manufacturing and services this week, when it releases its February indexes on those sectors. But February's nonfarm payrolls report from the Labor Department will be the main event as job losses continue to give investors reason to question the sustainability of the economy's recovery.

"The market is looking to move

off center ... and the employment report is probably going to be the most important of the week," said Paul Mendelsohn, chief investment strategist at Windham Financial Services in Charlotte, Vermont.

"If that number comes in weak. it really confirms the strong unemployment claims data we've seen. If it comes a little bit better, it would indicate maybe we're creating jobs at a fast enough pace to offset the claims," he said.

Besides payrolls, Wall Street will have a flurry of other numbers to mull over, including January personal income and spending, as well as February domestic car and truck sales.

Fourth-quarter earnings reports are winding down, but investors will see results from a handful of Standard & Poor's 500 (.SPX) companies, including natural gas producer and pipeline operator El Paso Corp (EP.N) and major U.S. office supplies retailer Staples (SPLS.O).

BEST MONTH SINCE NOVEMBER

While all three indexes finished slightly lower for the week, the stock market capped its best month since November.

For the month of February, the Dow Jones industrial average (.DJI) was up 2.6 percent, the S&P 500 (.SPX) was up 2.9 percent and the Nasdag Composite Index (.IXIC) rose 4.2 percent. Although February was sweet, the final week of the month went down in the loss column. For the week, the Dow slid 0.8 percent, while the S&P 500 shed 0.4 percent and the Nasdaq slipped 0.3 percent. Lingering concerns Greece's fiscal deficit problems and its effects on the euro were among factors keeping investors on edge. The S&P 500 has climbed as much as 70 percent from its lows in early March 2009, largely because stronger-than-expected economic data and earnings, but it has since retraced some of those gains.

SNOW MAY BLUR JOBS **PICTURE**



People walk past the New York Stock Exchange after heavy snowfall during a winter storm in New York February 26, 2010. A strong winter storm slammed New York City and much of the Northeast, forcing businesses, schools and transportation systems to shut down.

REUTERS/Chip East

Recent snow storms and other harsh winter weather may contribute to the weaker February jobs picture and make the data even harder to forecast, analysts said.

But, they said, the numbers remain among the most important for the economic outlook. "You can't describe the economy as in a recovery until you have job growth," said Charles Lieberman, chief investment officer of Advisors Capital Management, LLC in Paramus, New Jersey.

For this Friday's jobs report, the consensus forecast, according to economists polled by Reuters, calls for a loss of 50,000 jobs in February, compared with a decline of 20,000 in January. The U.S. unemployment rate is forecast to rise to 9.8 percent in February from 9.7 percent in January. "Productivity has gone through the roof, and so have earnings, and that's likely to translate into hiring" at some point, Lieberman said.

More than 70 percent of S&P 500 companies have beaten earnings estimates so far for the fourth quarter, well above the 61 percent in a typical quarter, according to Thomson Reuters, which began tracking data in

1994.

SPURIS EROLDAY



Phoenix Open champion Hunter Mahan holds the winner's trophy after the final round of the Phoenix Open PGA golf tournament Sunday, Feb. 28, 2010, in Scottsdale, Ariz. Mahan finished the tournament at 16-under par, one stroke ahead of Rickie Fowler.

Associated Press

Mahan edges Fowler to win Phoenix Open

BOB BAUM

AP Sports Writer

SCOTTSDALE, Arizona (AP) — Hunter Mahan came from four strokes back to beat Rickie Fowler by a shot to claim the Phoenix Open title Sunday.

The 27-year-old Mahan had an eagle and a pair of birdies in a late four-hole span to finish at 16-under 268 for his second PGA Tour victory. The first came at the Travelers Championship in 2007. Mahan closed with consecutive 6-under 65s to finish at 16 under.

He is the eighth U.S.-born player still in his 20s to win more than one tournament.

Fowler, just 21 and a tour rookie, had a final-round 68 for the second runner-up finish of his young career, both of them in Arizona.

South Korea's Y.E. Yang also shot a 65 to finish at 14 under, two off the pace. Last year's PGA Championship winner, Yang led until his tee shot went in the water at No. 17.

Mathew Goggin, Chris Couch and Charles

Howell III shared fourth at 13 under.

Third-round leader Brandt Snedeker struggled mightily at TPC Scottsdale with a 78 to wind up far back at 7 under.

Although he hasn't won, Mahan has played well the past two years. He played on the 2008 Ryder Cup team and had six top-10s in 2009, including a runner-up finish at the AT&T National. "It's just finding a way to win. I just haven't been able to do it," he said. "So obviously it feels great to get off the year on my fifth tournament to win. It gives me a lot of confidence in myself that I'm doing the right things in my game, and it feels great, it really does." Heavy rain fell overnight at TPC Scottsdale and sprinkles lingered in the morning. But the rain subsided by the time the leaders teed off at noon.

The tournament, in its 75th year, was known as the FBR Open but returned to its longtime Phoenix Open name when Waste Management Inc. took over as the title sponsor this year.

Continued on Next Page

MOTORSORTS

Johnson reels in Gordon to win at Las Vegas

JENNA FRYER

AP Auto Racing Writer

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Jimmie Johnson won his second straight race by passing teammate Jeff Gordon at Las Vegas Motor Speedway to claim NASCAR's Shelby American.

Gordon led 218 of the 267 laps, but he took just two tires on the final pit stop and it cost him the victory.

Johnson took four tires and restarted in fourth, but rocketed onto Gordon's bumper as soon as the race resumed. He chased Gordon for 17 laps, finally scooting past him with 17 to go.

"No luck involved in that one, my friend," crew chief Chad Knaus told Johnson.

Johnson then pulled away for his 49th career victory and fourth at Las Vegas. The four-time defending series



Jimmie Johnson (48) holes a checkered flag and does a burnout after winning the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series auto race Sunday, Feb. 28, 2010, in Las Vegas.

Associated Press

champion also won last week in California.

Kevin Harvick finished second, while Gordon faded to third.

Gordon was searching for his first victory in almost a year. He was out front when Kevin

Conway's spin brought out the final caution, and debated pitting strategy with crew chief Steve Letarte.

The call was made at the last second for Gordon to come in, and Letarte changed just two tires to get Gordon back on track before the competition. Knaus called for four tires in a decision that put Johnson in fourth on the restart.

Clint Bowyer, who didn't pit, restarted as the leader with 34 laps to go and the Hendrick cars immediately split him

to move back to the front. Gordon held the top spot for 17 trips around the track, but fretted several times as Johnson looked both inside and out

"Not much we can do about those four tires," Gordon told his crew.

"We'll give it everything we've got."

"I'm with you," Letarte replied. "Just do the best you can. Make it hard for him, either way."

Gordon tried to hold off Johnson, but he finally scooted past with 17 laps to go. He quickly pulled away, and Gordon was unable to hold off Harvick.

"If we won the race, we'd look like geniuses, Steve would have. The fact that we lost the race, now Chad looks like a genius," Gordon said.

Continued on Page 14

SPORTS A13 Monday, March 1, 2010

PHOENIX OPEN

Yang at 15 under.

Continued from Previous Page

The poor weather held the estimated final-round crowd to just under 44,000, well off last year's 60,000-plus. That brought the week's total attendance to nearly 426,000, down from 470,000 a year ago at the rowdy event that always draws the biggest crowds on the tour.

Going down the stretch, it was a three-way battle with Mahan, Fowler and Yang.

Yang, whose PGA Championship victory made him the first Asian-born golfer to win a major, eagled No. 10, then reeled off four consecutive birdies to take the lead at 15 under through 15 holes.

Trouble came, though, at No. 17, where his tee shot bounced into the water. Yang's 25-foot putt for par was on line but stopped an inch short of the cup, and the bogey left him at 14 under.

Mahan, meanwhile, hit his second shot on the par-5 13th 250 yards within 7 feet and made the eagle putt to reach 14 under. His 18-foot birdie putt on the par-4 14th moved him ahead of

The clincher came at the notorious 16th, the par 3 surrounded by bleachers filled with noisy, irreverent fans who cheer and boo with equal enthusiasm.

Mahan's tee shot caught the edge of the green and he made the subsequent $14\frac{1}{2}$ -foot putt to regain the lead at 16 under.

At the 15th, the open desert course's final par 5, Fowler chose to play conservative and lay his shot up rather than go for the green, which is surrounded by water. That left him with a par, and he missed birdie putts of 14½, 17 and 30 feet on the last three holes

He said he felt he was a bit too far away from the pin to go for it, considering he was just one shot back and had what he felt were good birdie chances on Nos. 16 and 17.

"I felt that instead of bringing trouble into play ... I took the safe route," Fowler said.

That left him with a par, and he missed birdie putts of $14\frac{1}{2}$, 17 and 30 feet on the last three holes.

Mahan sent his girlfriend to his car after he found a crack in his driver early in his round.

"Luckily the rules staff ran her out to the car and she got it before the next tee shot," Mahan said, "because the next hole is a par 5. I really didn't want to hit a 3-wood off the par 5."







Rickie Fowler watches his tee shot on the par-three 16th hole during the final round of the Phoenix Open PGA golf tournament Sunday, Feb. 28, 2010, in Scottsdale, Ariz. Fowler finished one stroke behind winner Hunter Mahan.

Associated Press



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Jimmie Johnson, right, celebrates in victory lane, spraying crew chief Chad Knaus, left, after winning the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series auto race Sunday, Feb. 28, 2010, in Las Vegas.

Associated Press

MOTORSPORTS
Continued from Page 12
"I talked to Steve brief

after the race. He's pretty upset obviously. I think he just felt like more people were gonna take two tires. Shoot, we were thinking for a split second to stay out.

"I felt like we needed to come in and get some tires, but I felt like two tires was the right call, too. We just needed (Johnson) to take two. They did the opposite of us. That won the race for them."

Harvick, who finished second to Johnson for the second consecutive week, said his Richard Childress Racing team has nothing to prove to Johnson.

"We can run with them, and they know it," he said.

The roles were reversed a week ago in California, when a lucky caution put Johnson in the lead. He had Harvick chasing him over the final laps, and Harvick appeared poised to take the win until he brushed the wall late to fall out of contention.

That win frustrated the competition, which has grown tired of Johnson's four-year reign.

"When you're a good team, like last week, people were talking about, 'Man, look how lucky they are,'" Gordon said of his teammate. "That's not luck. You do everything you can as a team right, and when everything is clicking, good things happen."

But Gordon, for the first time maybe since his classic 2007 battle with Johnson for the championship, thinks his team can keep pace with his one-time protege.

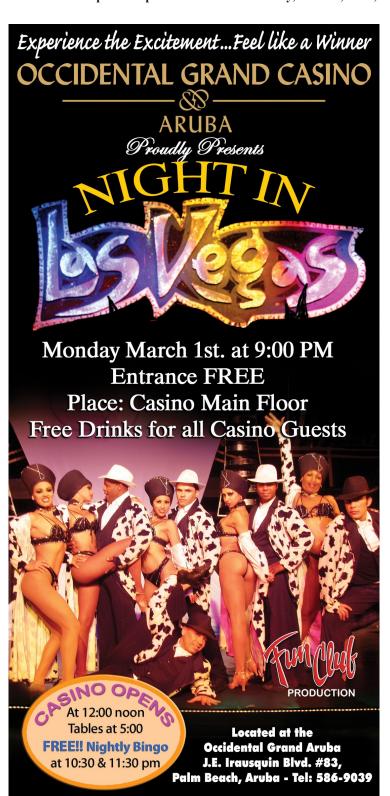
"I'm disappointed, but at the same time, you know, we haven't dominated like this in a very, very long time," he said. "I'm very really excited about this race team. I think we've got more of what we showed today that, that we're going to show a lot more. I think we're just starting to tap into it."

Mark Martin finished fourth to give Hendrick three cars in the top-10. Matt Kenseth was fifth and followed by Joey Logano, Tony Stewart, Bowyer, Kasey Kahne and Greg Biffle.

Defending race-winner Kyle Busch was flagged for speeding on pit road and finished 15th. Big brother Kurt, who started from the pole, was caught in an early accident with Daytona 500 winner Jamie McMurray and Juan Pablo Montoya and finished 35th.



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Serbia's Novak Djokovic, right, receives the trophy from Chairman of Dubai Culture and Arts Authority Sheik Mansoor bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, after winning his match against Russia's Mikhail Youzhny during the final of the Emirates Dubai ATP Tennis Championships in Dubai, United Arab Emirates Sunday, Feb. 28, 2010.

Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — Novak Djokovic successfully defended his Dubai Championships title on Sunday, beating Mikhail Youzhny of Russia 7-5, 5-7, 6-3 in a rain-delayed final.

Leading 7-5, 2-0 before rain suspended play on Saturday,

the second-seeded Serb won his 17th career title in a match lasting 3 hours, 21 minutes at the Aviation Club. There were seven breaks of serve in Sunday's 19 games.

Roger Federer is the only other player to win the Dubai title in successive years, winning three straight from 2003-05. Djokovic was erratic on serve, winning 71 percent of points on first serve while also

"Honestly, I did not have the best tournament," Djokovic said. "I struggled for the most part and the only day I felt

making 12 double faults.

comfortable was yesterday, leading the first set and 2-0 when the rain came in. And when I came out today, I struggled again and Mikhail started playing really well."

Djokovic led 3-0 in the third set but Youzhny won the next three games and had two breakpoint chances to lead 4-3.

"I thought the key point was keeping my serve when we were 3-3 in the third set," Djokovic said.

Youzhny agreed that the seventh game was the turning point of the match.

"If I won that game, nobody knows how the match would have finished," he said.

Youzhny rallied from 2-0 down in the second set, taking it into a decider after breaking in the ninth and 11th games.

"Before the tournament, if you say you'll play the final you say it is a good result," Youzhny said. "But now, straight after the final, when you have some chances, you do get disappointed."

Djokovic collected \$383,000 and 500 ranking points, while Youzhny picked up nearly \$183,000 and 300 points.



SPURIS ENDING

Canada caps Olympics with gold medal in hockey

ALAN ROBINSON AP Sports Writer

VANCOUVER, British Columbia (AP) — Canada beat the United States 3-2 on Sunday to win the Olympic goal medal in its national sport of hockey, with Sidney Crosby scoring the winning goal 7:40 into overtime and setting off a celebration from coast to coast.

The perfect finish to the Olympics for the host country, the gold medal was Canada's 14th, breaking the record for most won by a nation at a Winter Games. The Soviet Union in 1976 and Norway in 2002 each won 13.

The entire hockey-crazed nation was stunned when Zack Parise scored to tie the game for the U.S. with 24.4 seconds remaining in regulation.

But Crosby's shot from the lower part of the left circle eluded goalie Ryan Miller, and Canada Hockey Place erupted in deafening cheers. "It doesn't feel real. It feels like a dream. It just feels like dream," Crosby said. "Our team worked so unbelievably hard. Today was really tough, especially when they got the goal late in regulation. But we came back and got it in overtime."

Minutes after the game ended, delirious fans chanted, "Crosby! Crosby!" and International Olympic Committee president Jacques Rogge gestured with both hands, calling for more cheers, before presenting Crosby with the gold medal. Celebrations spilled into streets of cities across the country. Hours earlier, long lines had formed outside Vancouvers bars and restaurants as red-clad fans sought the perfect place to





watch the game.

As "O Canada" played, the Canadian team stood shoulder to shoulder, arms over each others' shoulders. The U.S. team stood dejected, staring at the ice, many with their hands on their hips.

In one of the greatest games in Olympic history, Canada's collection of all-stars held off a young U.S. team that had upset the hosts 5-3 in round-robin play a week earlier. That loss forced the Canadians to play an extra

game to reach the gold medal match.

Crosby had been scoreless the previous two games, but he had two post-regulation game-winners at these Olympics. He beat Switzerland with a shootout goal during the round robin. It was close. It was nerveracking. It was a game worthy of a gold-medal Olympic hockey final. And, for the disappointed Americans, it was a monumental letdown in a tournament in which

ABOVE: Canada's men's ice hockey team shows off their gold medals after the medal ceremony at the Vancouver 2010 Olympics in Vancouver, British Columbia, Sunday, Feb. 28, 2010.

LEFT: Royal Canadain Mounted Police lower the Olympic flag during the closing ceremony for the Vancouver 2010 Olympics in Vancouver, British Columbia, Sunday, Feb. 28, 2010.

Associated Press

they were almost perfect. "It's devastating," U.S. defenseman Jack Johnson said. "It was the biggest game any of us have played in." Before the game, Crosby received a brief text message from Mario Lemieux, owner of the NHL's Pittsburgh Penguins, that read: "Good luck." Now, Crosby joins Lemieux — whose goal beat the Soviet Union in the 1987 World Cup — and Paul Henderson, who beat the Soviets with a goal in the 1972 Summit Series, among the instant stars of Canadian hockey. At age 22, Crosby has won the NHL's Stanley Cup and the Olympics in

less than a year's time.

It was also the second Canada-U.S. final in three Olympics. The Canadians won 5-2 in Salt Lake City in 2002 and appeared on the way to another comfortable victory when they took at 2-0 lead Sunday.

But they had to withstand a remarkable and determined comeback from a U.S. team that wasn't supposed to medal in Vancouver, much less roll through the tournament unbeaten before losing in the first overtime gold medal game since NHL players began taking part in the Olympics in 1998.

"No one knew our names," U.S. veteran Chris Drury said. "People know our names now."

Miller, the tournament MVP, was exceptional, and Parise scored a goal that — if the U.S. had won — would rank among the storied moments in American Olympic history.

With less than a half minute remaining and Miller off the ice for an extra attacker, Patrick Kane took a shot from the high slot that deflected off Jamie Langenbrunner to Parise, who shot it off Roberto Luongo's blocker and into the net.

Parise is the son of J.P. Parise, who scored two goals for Canada in the Summit Series.

Canada goalie Roberto Luongo didn't outplay Miller, but still proved he is a big-game goalie something he has never been previously — by making 34 saves in his own NHL arena. Luongo won all five games he played in the tournament, including all four after replacing Martin Brodeur following the loss to the U.S. the previous Sunday.

On Top Of The News

Email: news@arubatoday.com

Monday, March 1, 2010

Bill Marriott Meets Team of the Year at Renaissance



recentisland visit Bill Marriott, legendary Chairman and CEO Marriott International visited the Renaissance Resorts, in the heart of town. He was warmly welcomed at the property by the Executive Committee and Eduardo de Veer, creator and owner of the Renaissance Marina Hotel and the Renaissance Ocean Suites as well as the adjacent shopping malls and casinos. On his blog, Bill Marriott reports that: "At Marriott, we pride ourselves on our diverse ownership initiative where we work to develop hotels with companies owned and operated by diverse groups. We enjoy working with and learning from people from many cultures and work

ORANJESTAD -- During his hard to be a very inclusive recentisland visit Bill Marriott, company."

True to his philosophy as expressed in his writing, Bill Marriott was pleased to meet the Team of the Year, the top performers of the hotels and pose for a photo opportunity with Emmanuel Merveil, Steward, Leidy Munoz, Activities Counselor, Suzana Pasmino, Sous Chef and Selmar de

Roo, Front Office Manager. He was also extensively briefed by General Manager Paul Gielen, regarding the upcoming improvements and ongoing investments.

Pictured here Team of the Year with Bill Marriott; other pictures depict the following day's celebration at the Renaissance Convention



Center, announcing team nominees and winners.

Among nominees distinguished for their excellent performance in 2009, Zulaica Tromp, Reservation Agent, Edgard Maduro, Plumber, Roberto Ramirez, General Engineer Renaissance Private Island, Elizabeth Alcocer-Ludenas, Food & Beverage Busser, Ocean Suites, Gloria Meneces-Huari, Food & Beverage Waitress, Room Service, and Ifna Williams, Front Office Clerk. Top distinguished supervisors included Luis Vasquez, Junior Sous Chef, Juana Martinez, Food & Beverage and Alex Alders, Banquet Event. Top distinguished managers included Bjorn de Bruijn, Chief Engineer, Miroushka Statia-Diaz, Assistant Controller & Michael Gomez, Sous Chef.

Election Day at La Cabana Beach & Racket Club



EAGLE BEACH – The cafeteria's monthly theme day on Friday staged Election Day with six of the resort's executives running for office on assorted attractive platforms.

Read more on Page B3



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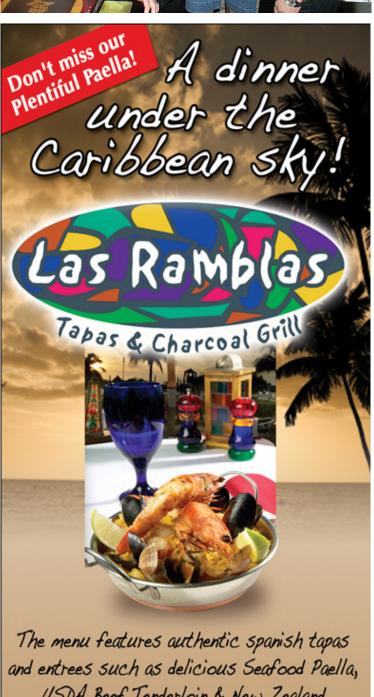
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Arubu TODAY

El Gaucho's 33rd birthday was enjoyed by many





USDA Beef Tenderloin & New Zealand Lamb Chops from the charcoal grill.

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Wilhelminastraat – Many pitchers of sangria were poured on the occasion of El Gaucho restaurant's 33rd birthday. Locals and visitors shared the festivities with El Gaucho's staff members as the famous family owned establishment embarked on its 34th year, serving the best and biggest steaks from Argentina.

"I started working for El Gaucho at the age of 7," says owner Omira Botta, "when my mom and dad volunteered me and my sister to work in place of absent employees, in the kitchen, in the dining room, wherever and whenever needed. I remember we pitched in and helped in all departments, with the restaurant staff and our parents as mentors and coaches," Omira fondly reminisces.

restaurant, which

opened on Wilhelminastraat 80, in February of 1977, had just a few tables in the original dining room. Over time the adjacent Wilhelminastraat 82 and 84, were incorporated into the rustic décor of the pampasinspired restaurant. Mid 90s, Garufa, the elegant Cigar & Cocktail Lounge was inaugurated to allow patrons waiting for their tables, a drink in a relaxing fun lounge over live music. And recently the company launched yet another new and exciting project, Lola's Lounge in the lobby of Costa Linda Beach Resort. In the last phases of décor, the lounge is already swinging with happy hour every afternoon and every night. And you may visit your favorite Garufa bartenders, at Lola's Lounge working the 4 p.m. to 1 a.m. shift, in the lobby of the Costa Linda Beach Resort, with live music nightly from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m.





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Caya Frere Bonifacius 15 a very good residential area! 3bed/2bath . Living, dinning and kitchen area. fenced, alarm system and carport garage. Plenty of space to build a swimming pool
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by critical in the master bed room.
This villa, meets and exceeds all luxury and comfort expectations. Price: \$ 1.3 Million

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Election Day at La Cabana Beach & Racket Club





EAGLE BEACH – The cafeteria's monthly theme day on Friday staged Election Day with six of the resort's executives running for office on assorted attractive platforms.

In his election campaign, General Manager Joe Najjar promised to give all associates a 10% salary increase without evaluation and one month salary as part of their election bonus. Engineering's Stanley de Cuba pledged payment of all employee utility bills also providing free maintenance service to associate homes. Assistant General Manager Jessica Franken vowed to make housekeeping service available to all associates at no charge, throwing free laundry in, as a special incentive. Director





Kock, volunteered food and drink free of charge at all resort Food & Beverage outlets and opening the cafeteria 24/7 for delicious meals, including home delivery. The Accounting's Marc Anthony granted unlimited salary advances to all associates with payback at employees' discretion, as well as complimentary Cinnabon in the cafeteria. Director of Human Resources Tessely Koolman granted all Sundays off with pay and no need to request vacation days, instead employees could just take time off at their wish. Sounds too good to be true? It was, but the associates at La Cabana Beach & Racquet Club loved every feature of the incredible election promises and voted Joe Najjar in, as the winner of the cafeteria Election

To make it even more exciting the Security Department which came up with the theme, invited the Aruba Parliament members to attend.

Day.

Fourteen parliamentarians responded enthusiastically and dropped in for lunch with the resort associates.

General Manager Joe Najjar and his crew were very grateful





for the unexpected visit of the government, prepared to experience the resort first hand. Having concluded lunch and counted all votes the Security Department thanked Cabana's family members for their participation, making a difference in the way the resort operates and celebrating every month as "One Happy Family". Pictured here the historical lunch in the cafeteria with fourteen members of Aruba's Parliament, which will not be easily forgotten, or topped.

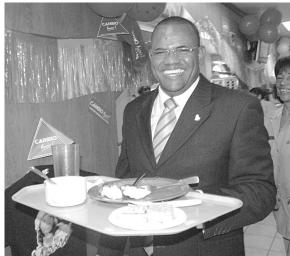


Kudos to Security for an original and impressive presentation!









4ruba TODAY

rime Minister still hopeful on 10-10-



Antillean Prime Minister Emily De Jongh-Elhage

WILLEMSTAD--Antillean Prime Minister Emily De Jongh-Elhage expects that Second Chamber of Dutch Parliament will still discuss the legislation this spring for the progress of the constitutional change process in the Kingdom.

According to her the commencement date of October 10 this year (10-10-10) for the new entities and relations is therefore still feasible

"We had just signed for a new Antillean government which is nearly identical to the

the news that Prime Minister Jan Peter Balkenende's fourth cabinet had fallen," De Jongh-Elhage recalled during the weekly press conference of the Council of Ministers.

"We had immediately started contacting various people in the Netherlands to convince them that these law proposals concern us and are ready to be handled in a public meeting as they all dispose of the necessary advice. They should therefore be discussed, even if the cabinet tendered its resignation."

"In support of our telephone lobby, we also had our Minister Plenipotentiary in The Hague forward letters to Balkenende, State Secretary Ank Bijleveld and most of the parties in the Second Chamber, as well as individual politicians who are involved in our constitutional process."

"We had accomplished all of the aforementioned before the first consultation round of Queen Beatrix. Many - among them Balkenende had immediately responded to our letter and informed us that they also support the swift discussion of these law proposals," De Jongh-Elhage continued.

The Antilles substantiated in writing that "the process constitutional of reform within the Kingdom is at an advanced stage. En route to the new constitutional entities, irreversible steps have been

previous one when we heard taken; expectations have been raised with the population to which politicians on all islands had committed themselves."

> The Prime Minister considered the developments regarding the BES islands irreversible. She also does not see how federal tasks that have been transferred to an Island Territory can be returned to the Central Government.

> Nevertheless, she does realise that as long as the dismantling of the Netherlands Antilles has not been carried out by changing the Kingdom Charter itself, the Antillean country and its government will continue to exist.

> The Central Government further fears "unforeseeable consequences for the future of the islands" and that "the essential stability and confidence of the citizens in good and sound governance will be seriously undermined" if the legislation course were to be delayed now.

> Government personnel would also experience a "difficult uncertain period," while "investors would play a waiting game or withdraw." Therefore, the Antillean Prime Minister does not even want to talk about "11-11-11." The Antilles is of the opinion that a swift completion of the current course is advisable in the interest of the Kingdom and, in particular, its Caribbean islands.

> In this, there is support from an unexpected quarter. Now

Minister of Internal Affairs and Kingdom Relations Ernst Hirsch Ballin wrote the Second Chamber even before the first consultation round of the Queen - and therefore before he had received the new portfolio - that discontinuation and non-completion of the current process "would have disastrous consequences for the Netherlands."

The Association of Dutch Municipalities VNG also supports this line of thought. Ralph Pans and Tjerk Bruinsma of VNG said "the islandadministratorshadgiven their all for this constitutional reform and this must not be thwarted by the snap Chamber elections. Therefore, this subject may not be declared controversial."

VNG urged the Second Chamber to discuss the relevant legislation during this cabinet period and not pass this on to the future cabinet.

By her own account, De Jongh-Elhage stated had contact with relevant discussion partners in the Netherlands by telephone on a daily basis to secure majority support to pass the necessary laws, first by the Second Chamber's committee Antillean and Aruba Affairs NAAZ next week and then by the First Chamber during the following month.

The Prime Minister said for now, the continuous contacts indicate she can argue the Antillean interests more efficiently from Willemstad than by travelling to the Netherlands. She emphasised that one must exercise caution, because "10-10-10" has become a political subject for discussion not only locally, but also in the Netherlands.

"They not only practice politics there too, but have also started the campaign for the Second Chamber elections of June 9. We should therefore not be surprised when certain Dutch politicians tell us one thing and say something different in the Netherlands, depending on whatever is favourable regarding elections; we must have understanding for this," said De Jongh-Elhage



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Cuba's Cookin' Tambourine Man Celebrates Birthday



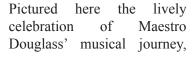
ORANJESTAD - Publisher restaurateur Douglass Markus invited his wide network of international friends to eat, drink, play and sing along on the occasion of his birthday. The annual celebration featured the music of Cuba's Cookin duo, a great father and son combo

Cubano, whose ranked were fortified with Douglass on the tambourine - the man's got rhythm --and the rest of the gang on maracas, and a creativeassortment of noise makers.

The evening was complemented the delicious cuisine of Aldo, the



restaurant's original chef, and by the free flow of mojitos and



which earned him a spot in the band as a tambourine virtuoso□















UMAN HINTS***

Outsmart Your Resistance To Abundance

To become abundant in areas that you think you lack, you must focus on the abundance already in your life, for everyone abundance in their lives. Find the abundance that surrounds you. It is a natural Human reaction to take abundance for granted, so it will remain hidden until you notice it. When you focus on the feeling of abundance in your life, you will magnify that energy in your personal three dimensional hologram.

When you focus on the good things that are already plentiful in your life, you empower abundance and starve lack. Your emotion, together with your thoughts and actions, determine your future and create your life. The energy and focus you apply over time determines the speed and accuracy of your manifestation.

When we commit to a goal, we must know that it will become reality. This means

that opportunities will cross our paths and change will occur. We must be open to see the opportunities that will present themselves, and we must have the courage to act. We must allow and embrace change when we ask for it. We do get what we ask for, especially when we also act and feel with focused intent.

The best way to deal with self-doubt is to accept it as a natural part of the process, then use the doubt to sharpen your focus. Don't try to control the change that comes, for it will probably not be what you expect. Sometimes, we must relinquish control, and trust in our own ability to manifest along the way.

Don't be afraid of success, for fear is often the reason we fail. We can come up with any number of reasons to fear success, most of which are completely unconscious to us. Be aware of all the reasons you might fear success, so that you can recognize them and deal with them when they threaten to sabotage you.

When we change, threatens everyone in our lives because we start acting differently, stretching their idea of who we are. If people do not accept the change in you, they often begin to resent you for changing while they remain stagnant. This is especially true when people find success. If our friends and loved ones begin to resent us for our success. the emotional trauma can be devastating, and we become all too eager to make things the way they were, at any cost. Too often, we sacrifice our own success for other people's comfort.

We must tune our minds to the vibrational frequency of abundance. When we align with this energy, our lives will change and people in our lives might object. We must remain steadfast in the pursuit of our dreams. The people who truly love us unconditionally (there is no such thing as conditional love) will stay with you, while those who seek to control and suppress you will vanish.

Until Tomorrow...

Go to www.HumanHints. com to sign up to receive this column in your email each day.

~Quentin Danziger

Quentin has over 20 years experience balancing what we refer to as the Real World, with science and spirit. He has held positions of responsibility authority, received and a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Physics from Colorado School of Mines, and has also studied many avenues of alternative thought.

HumanHints the is culmination of his knowledge, experience and practice. These free daily emails detail concrete, real-world techniques to consciously create any future you choose, while in the throes of daily life created by outdated modes of thought.

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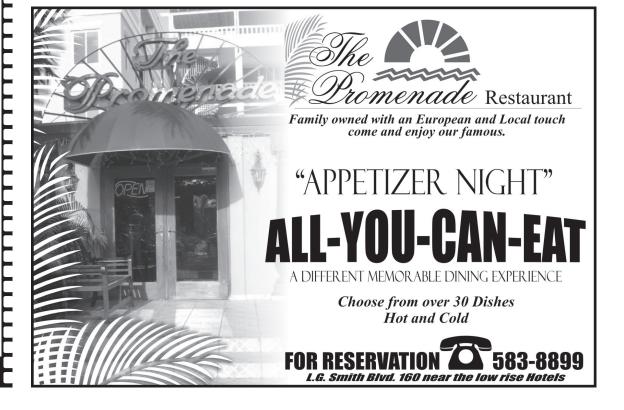


AT RENAISSANCE - ORANJESTAD

PG-13	THE FOUR	TH KIND				NEW
	daily: matinee:	1:00	6:00 3:15	8:30 late show:	11:00	
PG-13	THE LOVE	LY BONES				
	daily: matinee:		5:30 2:30	8:30 late show:	11:30	
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	daily: matinee:	2:00	4:30	6:30 late show:	9:00 11:30	
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DC.	matinee:	12:30	2:30	late show:		
PG	VALENTIN daily: matinee:	12:45	6:30 3:30	9:00 late show:	11:45	
R	THE WOLF	MAN				
	daily: matinee:	12:15	6:00 3:00	8:45 late show:	11:30	
R	LEGION daily: matinee:		7:00	9:30 late show:	12:00	

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PG PERCY JACKSON & THE OLYMPIANS						
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PG-13	AVATAR					
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Matinee: sat - sun Late show: fri & sat						

AT PASEO HERENCIA



The French Steakhouse delivers dining under the stars



Eagle Beach – The French intimate, lovely setting. Steakhouse at the Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa just added another charming dining option, a tropical outdoor courtyard, featuring delicious cuisine under the stars.

The famed French Steakhouse prides itself on the elegant dining experience it offers patrons in the fully airconditioned dining room. Yet recently the idea of adding a garden spot to the existing blueprint began to sprout in the creative mind of Executive Chef George Hoek, and he immediately recruited the landscapers to create the

The French Steakhouse Ooh-La-La menu is now served indoor and alfresco, featuring creative appetizers, soups, salads, seafood dishes, poultry and the Pièce de Résistance South American & USDA Beef specialties.

Among popular appetizers the chef's Tropical Crab Cakes with pineapple & mango salsa and the Teriyaki Glazed Seared Duck Breast, served with garden greens and balsamic dressing, are real crowd pleasers.

True to the restaurant's French roots, the Onion Soup

is a classic, while the Honey Glazed Salmon Salad winks at the exotic East with a sweet soy dressing.

The menu features a great variety of seafood dishes from fresh fish to the totally sinful amazingly-decadent Caribbean Stuffed Shrimp with Crabmeat and Bacon. which became an instant hit. The tequila and sweet chili glaze, lends the Jumbo shrimp a pure taste of heaven!



The French Steakhouse is naturally famous for the South American Churrasco steak, a signature preparation, which now shares the stage with juicy USDA beef specialties such as NY Sirloin and Filet Mignon.

Light-eaters will find the Jerk Chicken Skewers and the Lemon Herb Broilers very satisfying.

Open seven days a week from 5:30 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. the French Steakhouse is blessed delightfully renovated dining manchebo.com/steakhouse

room with sparkling China, crisp linen, an interesting bread basket, colossal desserts and live jazz on piano with Eddy Samson who is Aruba's best entertainer, and a walking & breathing music encyclopedia, just whistle the tune, and Eddy will produce a symphonic version of your favorite song.

patrons Hungry appreciate the Ambassador's 5-couse menu featuring the run of the menu highlights for with the nicest staff and a just \$34.95 per person. www.



Pega Pega Café & Beach Bar reinvents Beach Cuisine



Giorgio's Ristorante Italiano **introduces Menu Turistico**

Eagle Beach -- Giorgio's Ristorante Italiano located at the heart of the low-rise hotels at the Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa, delivers authentic Mediterranean flavors, at a reasonable price.

The restaurant has just introduced Menu Turistico a threecourse dinner featuring appetizers, main courses and desserts for just \$19.95, per person, plus 15% service charge.

Patrons may choose between home made soup and Caesar salad, Fettuccini Alfredo, Lasagna Casarecia, Spaghetti alla Bolognese or any favorite pizza with Tiramisu, Cheese Cake or Ice Cream for the sweet finale.

Executive Chef George Hoek is the resort's muchappreciated culinary expert. He was the recent recipient of a Lifetime Achievement Award, presented by the Aruba Hotel & Tourism Association in collaboration with the Digicel Group. Chef George accepted the Shoco Award, the national award of excellence, and Aruba's top professional decoration, in the tourism industry.



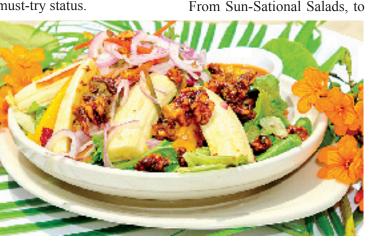
Eagle Beach – Pega Pega Café & Beach Bar at the Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa is widely recognized as the home of Beach Cuisine.

Executive Chef George Hoek and his culinary team serve a Sun Splashed menu on the ocean front terrace, raising the restaurant to a must-visit, must-try status.



The contemporary menu, lists many favorite dishes from around the world, borrowing inspiration from US, Mexican, Thai, Jamaican, Cuban, Greek and Mediterranean kitchens, all served with a tropical, Caribbean flair.

From Sun-Sational Salads, to



Cuban pressed jawbreakers and wraps, mid-day platters also include oversize Beef Burgers, Philly Cheese Steak Sandwiches and Hot Dogs.

The Pega Pega tropical & frozen cocktail list, with fresh fruit or ice cream smoothies, daiquiris, coladas margaritas, leaves nothing out, including Yellow Birds, Sex on the Beach and Mudslides, making a lunch-time brainfreeze, extremely easy to get! The Pega Pega, one of Aruba oldest beach bars is open on fabulous Eagle Beach, with unrivaled views, caring, gracious service, and relaxed atmosphere, from 12 noon to 5 p.m. The bar is open from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Aruba_TODAY

Tierra del Sol honors long time commitments



WEST PUNT – Tierra del Sol honored sixteen staff members who have been working with Aruba's famed golf course and country club for five, ten and fifteen

years.

Managing Director Bas van den Nieuwenhuijzen invited department heads to speak about their own department's honorees, also











• 7:00 PM

Photo by Diane Keijzer

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adding his own warm words of appreciation, praising their long term commitment to the company and their dedication.

Celebrating five years at Tierra del Sol Fernando Caro, Charito de Leon, Minerva Hernandez, Roekiman Bangil, Nigel Ridderstaat and Randolph Ruiz.

Celebrating ten years at Tierra del Sol Nora Castillo, Stalin Tullod, Sylvia Wolter, Reynaldo Santis and Janet Grajo.

Celebrating fifteen years at Tierra del Sol Allan Leverock, Marietta Maduro, Martin Haselhoef, Elvin Tromp and Constantino Orara. Mariela Gietel, Human Resources Manager, decorated the banquet area adjacent to the pool and arranged for an open bar and delicious snacks.

The party was entertained with a live DJ, mixing contemporary lounge music.

All honorees were presented with a hand engraved crystal bowl or picture frame, and other tokens of sincere appreciation.

Pictured here the heart of Tierra del Sol, its core employees, who have pledged their support, excellent training and ample experience to the company, for a total of 155 years!!



The best Brazilian Steakhouse in Aruba! Serving the Island's most exquisite deserts...

The best salad bar can be found in Texas



PALM BEACH – The health and calorie conscious among us need fear steakhouses no more. Whether it's a low-carb, low-fat, or even vegetarian diet you follow, Texas de Brazil Churrascaria fits into just about every dieter's menu plan. Low carb eaters will have all their expectations surpassed with a tempting carnivorous selection of umpteen cuts of sizzling beef, pork, lamb, sausage, and poultry. The meats are prepared in the healthistyle of cooking—slow roasting—where much of the fat drips off in the roasting process, so those looking for a lower fat option to sautéing, pan frying, or deep frying will also be able to indulge. The Brazilian-style steakhouse alsooffersupagardenfullofhealthy eats on a lavish 40-item seasonal salad bar, giving dieters plenty to choose from to accompany the

slow-roasted meats. A selection of fresh lettuces and vegetables may be standard for most salad bars, but Texas de Brazil's version goes a gourmet twist further, treating the palate to additional items like marinated portabella mushrooms, sweet roasted bell peppers, hearts of palm, sundried tomatoes, imported cheeses—including fresh buffalo mozzarella—sushi, homemade soups, and much more. The salad bar is included in the continuous service meal with unlimited choices from the grilled meats, but for vegetarians or the non-meat eaters, a special price is offered for just the salad bar. Of course, for those looking to splurge while on vacation, Texas de Brazil will gladly serve their garlic mashed potatoes, traditional fried plantains, and their world-famous parmesan cheese bread as part of the meal.

Restaurant
open daily
Monday - Sat 6 pm - 11
Sunday 5 pm - 11 pm

For more information or to
make reservations, please
call 586-4686.



Adam Steinfeld live tonight!

Don't miss Magic & Comedy tonight at the Westin



STEINFELD: 'MAGIC LIVE!' Theater-of-illusions show... now at the WESTIN - Aruba, see it live! 9pm nightly NightMagic-Comedy- Master of illusions. PREPARE to Witness TOP-Class Illusions, Magic & Comedy on Stage. Adam Steinfeld's Magic Live!® show, at the WESTIN - Aruba...'Sensational!', 'Amazingly Funny!'...the Hottest ticket in Town! A Must See"

'BEST MAGIC SHOW, I've seen in ages...and I hate Magic!
- Carol Butz, Belair, Maryland.

'MagicLive!...is Hip-Comedy Entertainment, Adam is the ultimate Modern Magician' - Jacque Polak, CBS-TV. Steinfeld sophisticated cardsharp street magic, mixed with grand theater illusions is a visual feast...this will be the highlight of your vacation. -Al Blanchard, mystery novelist, Boston, MA.

Steinfeld's, comedy magician, likable on-stage personality, comic interactive-wit, and amazing magic, mixed with his dream-like theatre-of-

illusions, is a sensory overload of the imagination, along with his lovely dancers...a treat for the entire family.

SEE IT LIVE! On-Stage!

"It's obvious Adam's real passion is performing in front of a live audience, as his charisma and charm create an unforgettable show!" Steinfeld is a 'Master of Magic', he invents many of his own Las Vegas illusions that are designed in England, fabricated in Vegas, and travels with him on tour, in a explosion of amazing fun.

THE MUST-SEE
SHOW - YOU DON'T
WANT TO MISS IT!
AROUND THE WORLD
AND BACK, Adam Steinfeld:
'MAGIC LIVE!', from Monte
Carlo, Hong Kong, Orlando,
Miami Beach, Biloxi, Boston,
San Juan, New York, Aruba to
Vegas, it's the coolest show in
town, taking up where Houdini
left off."

MAGIC-GRANDILLUSION - COMEDY



IF YOU GO

What: Magic Live! theater-of-illusions show Where: Westin - Aruba, palm beach (high-rise area) Who: starring, comedy illusionist, Adam Steinfeld

Time: 9:00 pm, theater opens at 8:30pm

Tickets: at the door

Price: \$19.95 under 15, \$29.5 adults

Group Sales: 561-1090

website: www.MagicLive.com Blog: www.MagicOnTheBeach.com

4rubu TODAY

PDVSA could drop Curacao refinery lease – report



oil company PDVSA may withdraw from the 320,000 on the Caribbean island,

WILLEMSTAD - Venezuelan operates in Curacao to protest U.S. military operations barrel-per-day Isla refinery it Ultimas Noticias newspaper



reported on Saturday, citing an interview with Venezuela's oil minister.

Venezuela may order state-run PDVSA to abandon its lease of the Isla refinery because the U.S. military has been staging "provocations" on Venezuela from Curacao, Oil Minister Rafael Ramirez was quoted as saying.

PDVSA has operated the Isla refinery since 1985 under a long-term lease with the government of Curacao, a Dutch island 40 miles (65 km) north of the Venezuelan coast.

A PDVSA spokesman did not return a phone call seeking comment.

Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez, who has said the United States is plotting to invade his country, in December accused Curacao of allowing the Unites States to launch spy flights over Venezuelan territory from the island.

Dutch officials rejected the accusations, and the U.S.

government has denied any plans for military incursion into Venezuela.

The Isla refinery processes mostly Venezuelan crude oil, and PDVSA has in recent years tried to negotiate a purchase of the plant from Curacao's government.

Gasoline and other refined products from Isla are shipped to the United States, South America and other fuel markets.

PDVSA has faced a series of operational and emissions issues at Isla. Refinery units were shut for months last year due to power supply problems.

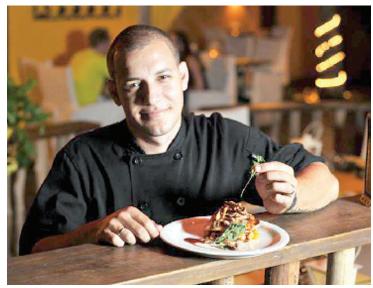
A Curacao judge ruled last May that PDVSA would have to carry out investments worth \$100 million at the plant to reduce sulfur and other particulate pollution, or eventually face multimillion dollar fines.

PDVSA has complained that tougher emissions standards in Curação would cost up to \$1.5 billion to comply with.



Fine & Affordable Dining at Pam Pam Restaurant

Meet Chef Ludwich Samson and his exquisite menu now unveiled!



Nestled in the quiet neighborhood of Boegoeroei, Perle d'Or apartment complex houses Dutch students and vacationers, as well as a cozy garden eatery, Pam Pam Restaurant & Bar. Aiming to attract a more diverse clientele, Pam Pam has recently adopted a more upscale dining concept. In order to pilot this new concept, rising local chef Ludwich Samson was brought on board, and in just two months on the job, he has

more than proven his worth.

Laid-back, refreshingly young, and ambitious, Ludwich began his career as a chef by enrolling in Aruba's hospitality and culinary arts school—the best decision he has ever made, he wholeheartedly claims. With ten years in the kitchen and three years as a chef, Ludwich has developed an impressive arsenal of cooking skills. He attributes the majority of his growth as a chef to his years of working under his mentor, Vittorio Muscarlello, owner of Hostaria Da'Vittorio and one of the most highly respected chefs on Aruba.

In his two months with Pam Pam, Ludwich has entirely remodeled the kitchen to make it more efficient. He has also created a whole new menu featuring particularly unique dishes in order to distinguish Pam Pam from the endless number of restaurants along Aruba's hotel strip. While the menu still offers Dutch snacks and typical Dutch platters like sate to appease the many Dutch interns residing at Perle d'Or, the rest of the menu offers upscale fusion cuisine. Lemon grass and chillies give several seafood dishes a Thai flair; homemade ravioli and beef carpaccio salute Italy; crustacean ceviche adds a Peruvian element; and Indonesian spices add zest to a handful of casual main dishes

Ludwich also craftily adds little unexpected twists to some classic dishes, elevating the uniqueness of his menu. One of his personal favorites is his porcini-crusted filet mignon served with a thyme red-wine reduction. He also delights in the fact that most diners have a hard time figuring out the sweet and spicy deliciousness of his signature crustacean platter. Other interesting interpretations include lumpcrab lollipops, chicken cordon blue unorthodoxly stuffed with ricotta and bacon, and for dessert, tiramisu that promises an untraditional layer of decadent Bailey's chocolate mousse.

Needless to say, Ludwich is creative in the kitchen and works extremely hard, currently putting in 12 to 16 hours a day, seven days a week; but he insists that this is not what makes a good chef good. "I simply love what



I do for a living," confides Ludwich, and this is what guarantees success in the kitchen and contented diners. Of course, being a chef can be downright stressful, but Ludwich thrives on the rush of adrenaline on busy nights. And when he peers out of the kitchen and sees a restaurant full of people enjoying their meals, he experiences immense satisfaction. reservations call: 5877710 or 7483848, or visit us at www. pampamaruba.com.

Young inmates to learn trades

~ Will assist in their rehabilitation ~

ESTATE--MADAME. Foundation Judiciary Institutes Windward Islands SJIB with financial backing from Dutch funding agency AMFO will develop an intervention for rehabilitating young inmates through training in the trades of barber, computer repair, and tailoring.

The foundation signed a financial agreement with AMFO to the tune of NAf. 155,256 on Friday for the execution this project. The foundation and management of the Pointe Blanche Prison will work jointly to implement this programme. It will coincide with the prison's ongoing obligatory reading and writing programme, which started this past January.

SIJB Project Coordinator/ Policy Worker Cynthia van Samson-Filemon said this project was the pilot of a series that will progress through the assistance of the Social

Formation Programme in the long run.

She said the island faced the reality that 40 per cent of its prisoners were no older than 24. At the same time, most of these prisoners are repeat offenders and past interventions have not resulted in a behaviour change.

Therefore, Van Samson-Filemon said, the conclusion was drawn through evaluation that prisoners need a structured programme to keep them occupied and help develop their social skills. Moreover, she noted, as it is a challenge for these youngsters to obtain adequate jobs when they are released, the local Chamber of Commerce and business community have suggested they learn a trade to contribute to their rehabilitation.

She said the foundation had been working for the past two years on getting this project off the ground and the Labour



Department was willing to assist these youngsters in entering the job market.

While in training, inmates will also undergo an anger management course. Facilitators of the training consist of prison personnel familiar with the trades and who have good relationships with the prisoners, as well outside professionals in the fields.

Van Samson-Filemon said incentives for the 36 prisoners taking part in the programme included opportunities for a shorter time in prison and,

most important, appropriate rehabilitation into society.

Apart from incentives, inmates are usually enthusiastic about participating in educational programmes at the prison, as some sentences are quite lengthy.

'You can be the difference,' S4 Director tells students



PHILIPSBURG--Students who intend to pursue tertiary studies in the Netherlands this year have been advised to make optimal use of their college years and return home upon completion of their studies.

The advice came from Leader of Government and Education Commissioner William Marlin and St. Maarten Student Support Services (S4) Director Marva Richardson who were among several persons to address the students at an information evening at PMIA Hall on Back Street Thursday evening.

Richardson told the students they were smart and they have the opportunity to make a difference.

She encouraged them not to insurance, to name a few. be influenced by distractions such as boyfriends, but to goals and do well in their studies. She said college students can choose not to be poor.

Richardson also shared her own experiences studying in the Netherlands and her journey into the world of "Studying won't come easy," she said.

She encouraged students to return home following their studies, as St. Maarten needed them. "We want to see our students back."

Richardson also outlined the role of S4 in looking after the needs of students in the areas of housing and

Former S4 employee Maartener Candia remain focused on their Joseph, who now works at Government Accounting Bureau SOAB, provided a breakdown of the assistance available to students in terms of study financing and what it can be used for. Thursday's session was one of three Richardson and S4 representative, Elton Villareal held here over the past week. Sessions were also held with parents of students currently studying abroad and the business community.

> Some 78 students applied for study financing this year to pursue tertiary studies in the Netherlands.

Monday, March 1, 2010 CLASSIFIED



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A defining moment

4ruba TODAY

In more ways than one, the first meeting of St. Maarten's Corporate Governance Council should be seen as a defining moment in St. Maarten's development. For one thing, the council's existence and effective functioning should serve to bring some greater credibility to government, which will be required to be disciplined and to maintain a reasonable and respectable distance between itself and its corporate entities such as government-owned companies and governmentsponsored foundations.

For another, the effective functioning of the council should go a long way in helping to promote and cultivate a culture of dedicated and genuine service to country - not service guided by political whims and preferences that spawn conflicts of interests, corruption, bribery and malfeasance. St. Maarten expects the Corporate Governance Council to

ensure that appointments to the relevant government and quasi-government entities, for example, are made in a fair and transparent manner and are based on competence, not on irrelevant considerations such as narrow party or partisan political interests, favouritism and nepotism. This should help guard against trying to fill round holes with square pegs and ultimately should result in more efficient, more accountable and more successful entities.

But all that is the theory. The proof of the pudding, as they say, is in eating. The council will have to discharge its responsibilities fairly, honestly and fearlessly, not in the least deterred by the "tensions" it says it is fully aware may develop from time between itself and the politicians.

We have good reasons to believe that Chairman Louis Duzanson and other members of the council are wellequipped and imbued with the right spirit to get the job done. We congratulate them for their courage in accepting the tasks given them and we wish them well.

But we have no illusions about the council's tasks that, though they might seem to be fairly simple and straightforward, are anything but. Neither do we hold the view that simply by ensuring that the good governance banner is held high and waved proudly in St. Maarten, all the problems of the public entities within the council's sphere of influence will be swept away.

It is with this in mind that we look forward to the government moving swiftly to put a number of other complementary arrangements and institutions in place, not the least of these being a code of ethics for public officials and the institution of the ombudsman. We eagerly await these other defining moments.

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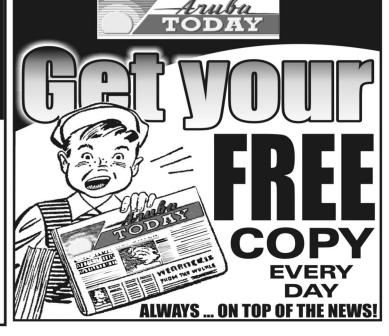
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Monday, March 1, 2010 ARUBA HOY

Anuba TODAY

Devastador sismo de 8,8 en Chile, repercute con fuerza en Argentina

708 muertos en Chile, militares salen a cuidar calles

CONCEPCION, Chile (AP)
- La presidenta Michelle
Bachelet informó que la
cifra de muertos por el
devastador terremoto que
arrasó Chile llegó hasta 708,
con un creciente número de
desaparecidos, que podrían
aumentar las cifras de víctimas.
La mandataria también dejó
saber que militares saldrán
a las calles para reforzar la
seguridad en medio de actos
de saqueo y vandalismo en
varias localidades.

La presidenta dijo que decretó el "estado de excepción de catástrofe" para las regiones de Maule y Concepción, con lo cual los militares saldrán a colaborar con la policía en la conservación del orden público.

En la provincia de Concepción, equipos de rescate realizaban tareas de búsqueda de sobrevivientes en edificios desplomados mientras otros grupos vandalizaban tiendas y la policía se esforzaba en contenerlos.

Las contrastantes escenas eran protagonizadas por gente desesperada que intentaba conseguir comida o rescatar



En esta foto distribuida por la presidencia de Chile, la mandataria Michelle Bachelet inspecciona una zona dañada por el terremoto en Concepción, el sábado 27 de febrero del 2010 (AP Foto/presidencia de Chile)

sobrevivientes, pero en ambos casos sus esfuerzos quedaban frustrados por nubes de gas lacrimógeno.

Devariaspoblacionesarrasadas por el terremoto de magnitud 8,8 del sábado, que desgajó casas, edificios, puentes y caminos, los periodistas reportaban saqueos a tiendas, farmacias, supermercados y hasta bancos.

En el centro de Concepción, la ciudad grande y con mayor proporción de daños, y en la vecina San Pedro, la población se volcó al pillaje.

La alcaldesa Jacqueline van Rysselberghe dijo que "hasta ahora no se ha recibido ninguna ayuda" alimenticia para los damnificados, lo cual ha desatado la caótica reacción en Concepción, ciudad a 115 kilómetros del sismo y 500 al sur de la capital.

Bachelet designó al general Guillermo Ramírez como responsable del orden público en esa provincia y dijo que acordó con los dueños de cadenas de supermercados la entrega gratuita y ordenada de los abarrotes de primera necesidad almacenados en sus tiendas.

SISMO CHILENO REPERCUTE EN ARGENTINA

Varias provincias del oeste de Argentina fueron sacudidas el sábado en la madrugada por un fuerte sismo de magnitud 8,8 registrado en Chile, sin que se reportaran víctimas o heridos.

Ciudades de las andinas provincias de San Juan, Mendoza, Neuquén y La Rioja, entre otras limítrofes con Chile, sintieron el movimiento, que también repercutió en la capital argentina, ubicada a unos 1.100 kilómetros al este de la zona indicada.

Sismo desacelerará recuperación económica de Chile

CIUDAD DE MEXICO (Reuters) - El devastador terremoto que sacudió a Chile golpeará también la recuperación del país tras la recesión y presionará al banco central a mantener las tasas de interés en niveles bajos para impulsar la economía. El potente terremoto de magnitud 8,8 cobró más de 700 vidas, derribó edificios y puentes y desató un tsunami que devastó costas.

Como los detalles de la magnitud de la destrucción siguen llegando, economistas dijeron que es difícil estimar el embate que recibió una de las economías más avanzadas de América Latina.

Los daños podrían costar a Chile hasta 30.000 millones de dólares, lo que equivale a casi el 15 por ciento de su Producto Interno Bruto (PIB), según Eqecat, firma que ayuda a las aseguradoras a delinear modelos sobre los riesgos de una catástrofe.

El sismo también golpeará las promesas del

presidente electo de Chile, Sebastián Piñera, de acelerar el crecimiento económico desde que asuma su Gobierno de centroderecha, que pondrá fin al mandato de 20 años de la coalición de centroizquierda llamada Concertación.

"Habrá un impacto amplio y profundo en la economía chilena", dijo Nick Chamie, jefe de investigación de mercados emergentes de RBC Capital Markets en Toronto.

Chamie y otros analistas previeron que el peso chileno se debilite, tal vez fuertemente, a causa de las noticias del terremoto.

"Nos iremos cortos con el peso chileno", dijo IDEAglobal.

Sin embargo, las principales minas cupríferas de la nación sudamericana -uno de los motores de la economía chilena- resultaron prácticamente ilesas y funcionarios afirmaron que las exportaciones del metal rojo no se verán afectadas. Chile produce una tercera parte del cobre del mundo.

Perú alista aviones para evacuar peruanos en Chile

LIMA (Reuters) - Perú dijo el sábado que tiene tres aviones listos para evacuar a los peruanos que quieran retornar de Chile tras el potente terremoto que sacudió al vecino país.

Chile fue remecido en la madrugada del sábado por un sismo de magnitud 8,8 -uno de los más fuertes de la historia- que dejó al menos 708 muertos, demolió edificios y provocó gigantescas olas que pusieron en alerta desde Japón hasta el archipiélago estadounidense de Hawái.

"Hemos separado un avión Hércules y otros dos aviones para enfrentar la emergencia", dijo el primer ministro Javier Velásquez al portal de internet del diario El Comercio.

El premier precisó que de poder realizar los vuelos hacia Chile, buscarán rutas alternativas, pues el aeropuerto internacional de Santiago estaba cerrado tras sufrir fuertes daáos por el sismo. En Chile residen más de 60.000 peruanos.

"Vamos a dar todo el apoyo posible para repatriar a los cadáveres o damnificados", agregó.





Presidente Colombia se va tras 8 años, pero deja legado

BOGOTA (Reuters) presidente de Colombia, Alvaro Uribe, abandonará el poder el 7 de agosto después de dos períodos consecutivos de Gobierno, pero pasará a la historia como el mandatario que debilitó a la guerrilla izquierdista y hacer de la seguridad una política de Estado

El mandatario, un abogado de 57 años, quedó fuera de la carrera electoral luego de que la Corte Constitucional declaró ilegal el viernes un referendo que pretendía habilitarlo para ser candidato y buscar su segunda reelección consecutiva.

Si bien Uribe, quien también dejará como legado un buen desempeño de la economía, nunca expresó su intención de ser candidato para los comicios presidenciales de mayo, sus actos demostraban que estaba interesado.

haber convertido la seguridad democrática en una política de Estado. Con muy contadas excepciones de los candidatos presidenciales, esa política tendrá continuidad en el próximo Gobierno cualquiera que sea el presidente de los colombianos", dijo el político y analista Néstor Humberto Martínez.

Uribe ganó la presidencia en el 2002 con la promesa de derrotar militarmente a las guerrillas izquierdistas en un país azotado por la violencia del conflicto interno armado y en el que sus habitantes no se atrevían a transitar por las carreteras por el temor de ser secuestrados.

Uno de sus principales logros ha sido la recuperación de la seguridad con una notable reducción de los homicidios, las masacres, los secuestros, los asaltos a pueblos y los ataques con explosivos contra "El gran legado de Uribe es la infraestructura económica del



El presidente de Colombia, Alvaro Uribe

país. El ex ministro de Defensa como favorito para remplazar camino ante el riesgo de que la Juan Manuel Santos se proyecta a Uribe, pero tendrá un difícil coalición de Uribe se atomice.





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